

# WALSALL CHRONICLE



Thursday, September 13, 2012

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## Tee time

Company's golf day boosts cancer care

See page 2



## Boxing clever

Young women pulling no punches at popular class

See page 15



## Village focus

Latest on new centre and other news from Pelsall

See page 26



## £10m plan proposed to revamp main road

AROUND £10 million will be ploughed into improving one of the busiest routes through Walsall under plans to ease congestion.

New signalised junctions will be created, pedestrian crossing points added and better bus stops installed as part of the scheme for the A461 Lichfield Road.

Walsall Council is leading the proposals although its highways officers say they are currently in the concept stage and, even if rubber-stamped, work will not begin until at least 2015.

The route is the main link between Walsall town centre and Brownhills. Initial details for the scheme have been revealed as it has emerged £100,000 has been set aside to look at the feasibility of works.

### Roundabout

Areas earmarked for improvements include the Mellish Road roundabout; Rushall traffic lights; Salters Road traffic lights and Shire Oak traffic lights.

Car parking, pedestrian crossing points and bus stops and shelters will also be improved.

## Church fund gets a boost

AN HISTORIC church in Walsall has received a funding boost as part of its ambitious £195,000 conservation plans.

Rushall Parish Church is looking to preserve its distinctive features, including rare paintings which date back more than a century.

The church has been awarded a total of £3,000 from the Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust. The Leigh Road church has already received almost £70,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund and other sources.

# ELLIE TO CHOOSE HER CELEBRATION

Report by Craig Hughes

**WALSALL swimming sensation Ellie Simmonds will most likely want to share her homecoming celebrations with young people across the borough, her proud parents say.**

The teenage star of the London 2012 Paralympics is to be recognised in her hometown after scooping four medals including two golds at the Games.

Walsall Mayor Councillor Dennis Anson is due to hold talks with the 17-year-old and her family and she will be allowed to choose the type of reception she wants.

Her mother Val said: "We are touched that so many people are supporting the mayor in wanting to celebrate Ellie's achievements and thank them for both their good wishes and suggestions."

"But Ellie will be the one who decides what sort of event that might be."

"She is in the media spotlight a lot, as that goes with the territory of her swimming role, but she is quite a private person who likes to get on with things quietly with no fuss."

"I don't know how she'd feel about an open top bus, for instance. But I can see her wanting to share any celebration with other young people."

### Encourage

"She is very keen to encourage and support other youngsters, of all abilities."

She added: "The calls for the Gala Baths to be re-named are very flattering but Ellie hasn't done any training there and that wouldn't really be appropriate. We used to live in Streetly so she trained in Sutton Coldfield."

"We are thrilled that Cooper and Jordan School has re-named its pool though, because Ellie actually swam in it regularly as a pupil there."

"When people ask us where we consider home to be there's no doubt in our minds. It's Aldridge in the borough of Walsall. And that's where Ellie loves to be."

Councillor Anson, said: "That sounds like a lovely gesture, to involve local youngsters in any celebration."

"We absolutely understand that Ellie and her family need time together after the Paralympic Games and will be happy to meet with them whenever they can manage."

A post box has been painted gold in Aldridge in honour of her achievements



Ellie with her medal haul

## New night market to help trade

PREPARATIONS are well under way for Walsall's first specialist night market, with traders being encouraged to register their interest in a stall.

It will be the first of its kind and is due to launch on Thursday, October 25, featuring up to 50 stalls, live music and a wide range of entertainment.

It will showcase and sell the work of some of the borough's most creative artists, designers, crafters and entrepreneurs who will be selling exclusively home-made and niche goods.

Regeneration chief councillor Adrian Andrew said: "The night market will launch a new era for trading in Walsall."

"The borough has been crying out for something innovative and exciting and this will raise the bar for commercial enterprise."

"It will provide people with a unique shopping experience, giving them the opportunity to purchase unusual and exotic food and original and exclusive gifts."

Plans for the opening night include street entertainment and a stage where bands and solo singers will perform.

The idea of a night market was drawn up as part of the bid to become a Mary Portas pilot town to help revive the centre.

For more information, call Jon Burnett on (01922) 654323.

## Sunflower reaches for the sky



David Sperring from Willenhall with his huge sunflower

**A PUNGENT ingredient has sent a green-fingered gardener's sunflower reaching for the sky**

David Sperring, from Willenhall, has found that liberal doses of horse manure has done the trick when it comes to growing huge specimens.

In his garden he has a soaring sunflower that has reached the lofty height of 13ft 2ins.

And that's not all, he has another two sunflowers that are both 11ft high in his sun trap garden in Coppice Lane, Willenhall.

### Seeds

The 58-year-old has been using the mucky stuff on his tomatoes and cucumbers for years but decided to see how it would work on some sunflower seeds earlier this year - and the results have been very impressive indeed.

He said: "I planted the seeds in April with horse manure under them and every fortnight I add some more."

He added: "I've been watering them nearly every day but we've also had a lot of rain, which has helped them too."

A gardener in Wigan last year grew a 25ft 3ins sunflower but that was 1ft 1in short of the world record.

## Family in escape as blaze is detected

A FAMILY escaped from their Walsall home after a fire caused by a discarded cigarette spread to two houses.

The blaze started in a shed in Walsall Wood at midnight on Monday and spread to two neighbouring semi-detached homes in Lichfield Road.

A family of two adults and three children were alerted by their smoke alarms and fled.

The fire spread to the back door of the evacuated property from a garden shed. The blaze also caused some external damage to the neighbouring property in Lichfield Road.

### Smoke

An elderly couple in the house next-door were affected by the blaze but were told by the fire service that there was no need to evacuate.

Aldridge watch commander Steve Palmer said: "The fire had burned through the plastic of the back door and had filled the property with smoke."

"The people living in there were just getting out as we got there."

He added: "It's a good job they had smoke detectors as they were all in bed at the time."

"It's a good example of how vital they are." The fire was out by around 2.15am.

## England stars coach pupils

ENGLAND footballer Sophie Bradley, who was in action during the Olympic Games, was due to visit Walsall schools yesterday (Wednesday) ahead of England Women's Euro qualifier at the Banks's Stadium next Wednesday, September 19, at 5pm.

Star of Team GB, England and Lincoln Ladies, Sophie was being joined by Jess Clarke, of England and Lincoln, to coach youngsters at Alumwell Primary and Streetly Academy.

They are likely to play when England take on Croatia in Walsall.

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# Church bid to fund new stainless steel roof

A £190,000 funding bid for a replacement roof at the oldest church in Walsall has been submitted – and has passed the first round of scrutiny.

A new roof is needed at St Matthew's Church after thieves stripped its lead and left a £400,000 repair bill. Building bosses have asked for the funds from English Heritage and the outcome is due to be announced by the end of the year. The theft last September left rain-

water leaking through the roof.

It comes after a five-figure sum was spent to replace the roof of the church's community centre with felt following a copper theft, and another £40,000 lead theft from the main church building.

The Rev Colin Gibson said: "The funding bid has gone in and it has got passed the first round."

"We are applying to English Heritage, which has made it clear it won't fund a non-metal solution."

The roof needs to be replaced with stainless steel.

"We need to make the roof watertight. During the summer, rain was still getting in and damaging the interior."

## Unsafe

"We had to close the children's chapel briefly. People cleared up the mess and removed unsafe plaster."

It is the second time the church has submitted a funding bid to

English Heritage after being turned down for a grant.

The church, which dates back to the 1100s, is also planning a £1 million restoration project. Repairs are needed on crumbling plasterwork, iron-framed windows, the balcony and staircase.

Other improvements could include the removal of raised flooring, new chairs and toilets with baby changing facilities.

# Debenhams revealing plans for big revamp

A NEW health and beauty hall along with a revamped restaurant will be created at Debenhams in Walsall as part of a multi-million pound upgrade of the Old Square Shopping Centre.

The work at the department store forms part of the £13 million transformation of the centre. Bosses have outlined their plans and promised shoppers would benefit from improved services and a better choice.

The revamp also include new fitting rooms and toilets.

The modernisation is part of the second phase of a rolling programme to transform the Old Square. A new Primark and Co-op are being built in the first stage.

Debenhams spokeswoman Kate Thomas outlined the plans and said work is expected to take place in 2014.

"The Walsall store modernisation is on the list for 2014 and exact timings are to be confirmed," she said.

**Restaurant**  
"The main areas we're focusing on will be around improved product offer and brands to increase choice, a new health and beauty hall, restaurant refurbishment and improved services such as toilets, fitting rooms etc."

It is believed the Walsall project will be the biggest transformation since Debenhams opened in the town 30 years ago.

Debenhams is also to launch a new store at the former TJ Hughes premises in the Three Spires Shopping Centre, Lichfield, creating 60 jobs.

Bosses at Old Square Shopping Centre have said they want to "increase the prominence of Debenhams", which is considered an anchor tenant.

Work to create the new Primark and Co-op store, creating 160 jobs, is now due to start in 2013.

The nursery will reopen on September 24.

## Golfers help cancer charity



Cancer survivors Jenny Bateman, Anne Earp and Sally Cooper joined Nick Plimmer from PVCU Direct at the PVCU Direct charity golf event held in Bloxwich

A WINDOW company from Bloxwich has raised more than £5,000 in aid of Walsall Breast Cancer Self-Help Group at a charity golfing event.

This is the fifth year that PVCU Direct has held the event at Bloxwich Golf Course and so far overall the company has managed to raise a massive £27,000 for the group. There were 152 players on the day to enjoy a full game, a raffle and auction.

Having had family members affected by

breast cancer, Nick Plimmer, sales director at PVCU Direct, decided to set up this event to help such a dedicated group of volunteers.

He said: "With the way things are we didn't expect to raise much money this year, so we were really happy when we beat last year's total."

Jo Stackhouse, charity co-ordinator and chairman for the breast cancer group said: "It is wonderful what they do, and we couldn't keep going without them."

## Drug farm gardener 'exploited'

POLICE found a drugs factory capable of producing £33,000 worth of cannabis a year when they raided a house in Walsall.

They also discovered Robert Jednorog, who had been cultivating the 40 plants growing at the property in Bassett Street. The Polish-born 26-year-old from Pearce close, Dudley, had been in the country since 2004, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Prosecutor Andrew Molloy said the drug crop was worth up to £11,000 in street sales and could have generated an annual yield of £33,000.

Jednorog had been receiving free accommodation in return for working as a 'gardener' on the drug farm.

He was vulnerable after spending a short time in a mental hospital, said Peter Arnold, defending.

Mr Arnold added: "He required money, was in a fragile state and did what was asked of him. He was exploited."

Jednorog had spent 108 days in custody. He admitted cultivating cannabis and was given a 12-month sentence suspended for two years with 200 hours unpaid work.

## Court tags trader in fake goods

AN ILLEGAL trader was caught with more than 3,000 fake DVDs, handbags and purses in Walsall.

Police swooped after Carl Smith was found with counterfeit goods at the Bescot Retail Park last December.

He admitted selling DVDs with a fake trademark and received a community order with a 16-week curfew, an electronic tag and to pay £650 costs at Walsall Magistrates Court.

Walsall Council trading standards bosses are working alongside police to crack down on dealers in fake goods.

Councillor Zahid Ali, portfolio holder for public protection, said: "We will not allow the good reputation of Walsall to become tarnished by such criminal activity."

## Coffee at station

WILLENHALL fire station is holding a coffee morning for charity on Friday, September 28.

It will take place at the Clarks Lane station from 10am to 12.

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## New suite will help children

A NEW facility which will be used by social services, police and health agencies to help protect vulnerable children has opened in Walsall.

The Starfish Suite at the Manor Hospital and has been designed to examine children at risk in a safe and secure environment.

It comes after Walsall Council's care and safeguarding of vulnerable children and its capacity to improve were branded as "inadequate" in a damning Ofsted report.

The opening of the suite has been a long-term aim for Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, which earmarked space for the facility in the hospital's £170 million revamp.

Consultant paediatrician Dr Vidya Rao said: "The Starfish Suite is a much-needed facility that provides a safe and welcoming place for children at risk to be examined. It will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to all agencies in the borough and will foster the joint working that is so vital for safeguarding children."

The name of the suite came from the story of a little boy picking up stranded straws on the beach and throwing them back into the sea.

## Dining hall extension bid

A FOOD hall at a school in Walsall will be extended, under plans submitted to Walsall Council.

The proposal is for Shire Oak Academy in Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood. It is hoped the single-storey extension will ease congestion at meal times in the main food hall.

The 314 sq ft extension would be connected to the existing school block.

A statement, submitted with plans, says there is no current plans to increase staffing levels in connection with the application.

The extension will be constructed in material to match rhw existing building in colour, texture and design.

## Snake run over

A SNAKE that was found in a Darlaston street has died.

The four-and-a-half foot long reptile was found at the junction of Rough Hay Road and Willenhall Street on the evening of Tuesday, September 4. It is believed the snake had been run over by a car.

# Board set to oversee care improvements

THE formation of an independent board to oversee improvements in children's services in Walsall was set to be approved by council chiefs yesterday (Wednesday).

The Improvement Board will be asked to report back to council bosses every quarter on progress. It comes after an Ofsted inspection branded the authority's care and safeguarding of vulnerable children as "inadequate".

The department's capacity to improve

was also rated as inadequate in the damning report.

Walsall Council's cabinet were due yesterday to discuss the matter for the first time since the problems came to light in July.

A report by Paul Sheehan, chief executive of the council, says: "The main findings of the Ofsted report are very concerning and disappointing. Out of a total of 22 judgment areas, eight areas of practice were found to be inadequate."

"The Department for Education has indicated that the council will now receive an improvement notice which will outline key actions and timescales, as well as the expectation that an improvement board will be established with an independent chairman."

"Immediate steps have been taken to put this in place together with improvements in front line practice and management decision-making."

Some of the improvements have been

given a three-month deadline and some six months.

Walsall Council's cabinet is being asked to note the findings of the Ofsted report, approve the establishment of an improvement board "to drive the rapid progress required through the improvement plan" and receive quarterly updates.

A new boss has been brought in to run children's services, Rose Collinson took over from Pauline Pilkington.

# Teen forced to drive with machete at face

**A TEENAGER was kidnapped and forced to drive a gang of four across the region with a machete held to his face before they attacked another man on Christmas Day, a court heard.**

The 17-year-old was kidnapped by the thugs from near Walsall bus station, where he had been waiting in his saloon car. He was with friends in the car waiting for another person when the gang struck at 1.30am.

The passengers were ordered out by Luke Jenkins, 22, who had a machete, Mr Oliver Woolhouse, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court.

Jenkins then climbed in the vehicle followed by David Hughes, 26, 19-year-old Matthew Sutton and Lee Ratcliffe, aged 27.

Mr Woolhouse revealed: "The young driver made the journey with the machete held close to his face."

### Confronted

They failed to get an answer from a house in Hordern Road, Whitmore Reans, when Jonathan Lewis and a friend stopped in their car to deliver a gift nearby.

Mr Woolhouse said: "He was confronted by Jenkins who was swinging the machete about and demanding a parcel that he claimed to be expecting. Mr Lewis

by John Scott

was subjected to a sustained attack while pleading that he knew of no parcel.

Mr Lewis, who will be scarred for life, told detectives: "I thought I was going to die."

While the kidnapped teenager said: "I am now frightened to go out on my own, do not feel safe and have trouble sleeping."

The defendants, all from Walsall, each admitted kidnap and possession of an offensive weapon.

Ratcliffe from Sandwell Street was jailed for four years. Jenkins also from Sandwell Street, also admitted wounding with intent and was jailed for 10 years.

Sutton, of Bath Street, Caldmore, and Hughes, of no fixed address, both further admitted wounding and were each locked up for five-and-a-half years.

## Revamp for shop parade

THE OWNER of a rundown shopping parade in Walsall, which is being revamped, said he wants to help make his town look nice.

Around £25,000 has been set aside for the revamp of Park Street Arcade, used by thousands of people every week.

Owner Pete Khosla said: "We want to enhance the arcade. I have got an interest in Walsall and I want my town to look nice. We want to repaint and decorate. There is a programme in place to revamp it."

Discussions are now taking place with Walsall Council over implementing the scheme. Shops in the arcade include a newsagent, bakers and amusements. It is used by an estimated 100,000 people a week.

## Call for Ellie stamps in home town



One of the special edition Ellie Simmonds gold medal stamps which is in high demand at post offices

SHE'S the golden girl of the Paralympics with two stamps printed in her honour but residents in Ellie Simmonds' home town have been unable to get their hands on any of them.

Despite issuing the pair after the 17-year-old swimmer's record-breaking gold medal achievements, Royal Mail failed to stock any of the stamps at the post office in Aldridge where fans, friends and relatives have been trying to buy them.

Now bosses have insisted the special stamps are on their way to the branch in High Street after customers complained.

The stamps were issued last week after Ellie stormed to victory in the 200m individual medley and the 400m freestyle.

She also picked up a bronze in the 50m freestyle and has had a postbox painted gold in her honour in Aldridge.

### Win

Royal Mail bosses said the stamps could be bought at Walsall Wood post office, almost two miles away, but that they would be rolled out to her home town post office soon.

Adrian Booth, a spokesman for Royal Mail, said: "There were 500 post offices that volunteered to be the

offices that would be on the frontline for these stamps.

"Obviously, we did not know which athletes were going to win and where they would come from."

"We hope the stamps would be rolled out to Aldridge so people can get them there."

It comes after some shoppers pointed out they could not get the stamps in Aldridge, where Ellie grew up before moving to Swansea to carry on her training.

Aldridge resident Dave Rock said: "I tried to buy a stamp here but couldn't - then visited another post office in Hagley where they had loads of them."

## NEWS in brief

### RSPCA cattery is at its busiest yet

THE RSPCA in Walsall is "overflowing" with cats, volunteers have revealed.

The charity, which uses Common Farm De-Lux Boarding Cattery in Staffordshire to look after animals, currently has more than 35 cats and kittens in its care.

It is the highest number of cats the branch has ever had to look after at one time.

Volunteer Becky Weeks said: "Cats and kittens are constantly being found abandoned in cardboard boxes and tied in carrier bags, dumped in bins and skips locally."

### Girls robbed by man with a knife

TWO teenaged girls were robbed at knifepoint, police have revealed.

The 16-year-olds were on Wilderness Lane, Great Barr, when a man came up behind them and threatened one with a knife. One of the girls threw her iPod at him and they both ran to safety.

The robbery happened on August 8 just after 7pm but details have only been released this week. Contact detectives on 101.

### Sixteen tonnes of rubbish removed

A CRACKDOWN on fly tipping in Walsall recovered more than 16 tonnes of rubbish.

Organised by Environmental Crime Enforcement Officers at Walsall Council, 'Skip Day' was supported by partners including Streetpride and Walsall Housing Group. They visited hotspots in the north of the borough, including Stag Crescent, Roebuck Road, Hunter Crescent.

### Arsonists blamed for two fires in a day

SUSPECTED arsonists started a fire in a derelict factory unit in Willenhall. Rubbish was set alight inside the former EW Box in Spring Lane, Willenhall, at 6.20pm last Friday.

Firefighters were also called when arsonists caused damage to a building at J Nixon and Co in Waterglade Road, Willenhall, at 2am last Friday.

### Road to be closed

RESURFACING work will force the closure of a road in Aldridge for five days.

Weston Crescent will be closed from September 17 to 21, between 8am and 5pm. Work is being carried out by Tarmac on behalf of Walsall Council.

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



SO FAREWELL, Max Bygraves. He was a link with that curious post-war age of innocence when a pop star could make a record about a pink toothbrush and a blue toothbrush, and the rest of us would rush out to buy it. How times change.

HOWEVER hard we try, we cannot avoid looking at paralympic athletes in a particular way. With an able-bodied star, we first look at the face and then the whole body. As the paralympic athletes line up, our eyes wander over each limb in turn until we see the disability. It is human nature to be so inquisitive but the full body-scan we reserve for disabled athletes must irritate them intensely.

AND so, I guess, must being constantly referred to as brave, heroic, courageous or plucky. Most paralympians are simply hard-working and determined to make the best of a bad deal. And the disabled soldiers in the GB team will tell you, as soldiers throughout history have told us, that the real heroes are their mates who never came home.

WORST job of the Cabinet reshuffle, as the petrol bombs and rubber bullets fly yet again, is surely that of Northern Ireland Secretary, awarded to the luckless Theresa Villiers. It must be like taking over a huge, dysfunctional kindergarten.

A READER reflects on that historic moment in 1969 when the late, great Neil Armstrong planted the American flag on the surface of the moon. He wonders whether this was the only time in history that anyone has raised the Stars and Stripes outside the United States without lots of people getting killed.

THE big investment banks report that they are obliged to pay graduates up to £45,000 a year to lure them into an industry which has such a bad name. But why are they recruiting graduates at all? Capitalism follows a cycle of rising greed followed by collapse. In the banking game, long memories are a great asset because the more people who remember the agonies of the last crash, the better are the chances of avoiding the next one. We need a law banning investment banks from recruiting anyone under 70.

CLEAR blue water is appearing between Barack Obama and his Republican challenger Mitt Romney. Or to be more accurate, clear golden nectar. Romney is a Mormon and a teetotaler. Obama, it was revealed this week, has his own beer brewed at a micro-brewery in the White House. Suddenly, according to the polls, the States is warming to its President. As the aptly-named pundit Harry Wallop observes this week: "If your opponent's strongest drink is mint tea, you've got Wyoming in the bag before anyone's cast a vote." Let us hope so. The idea of an American president, the most powerful man in the world, believing that real ale is the work of the Devil sets all sorts of alarm bells ringing.

WHAT a joy it was to see the rare pine martens on The One Show (BBC1). These home-grown chameleons are every bit as endearing as meerkats and do not try to sell you insurance.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Council stung by losing wasp cash

CASH-STRAPPED councils have lost out on tens of thousands of pounds – including a £16,000 shortfall for Walsall – because the bad weather has reduced calls for wasp nests to be removed.

Demand for council wasp removal services has plummeted as the wet and cold summer has seen the number of complaints drop with fewer wasps breeding.

Walsall bosses are £16,000 down on revenue expected to be generated from the pest control service.

Walsall environment boss Councillor Tom Ansell, explained that treatments for ants, fleas, weevils and beetles are chargeable.

## Control

But the largest individual source of income for the pest control service

throughout the summer months is in usually treating wasps nests.

"Long hot summers mean we have sometimes topped 1,000 call-outs at £48 per call-out, or £27 for those on specified benefits," said Councillor Ansell.

"Last year, for example, was a good year for wasps nests with just under 1,000 jobs being carried out. "This year, however, the all too

familiar long periods of terribly wet weather has seen a dramatic reduction in the number of wasp nests jobs completed.

"So far we have had 158. By this time last year we'd had 790.

Some councils including Cannock and Sandwell do not charge for the service and they had also seen a significant reduction in call outs to deal with wasps' nests.

# Jail term suspended for care home thief

## Pride in role at the Games



Walsall care worker Keith Nye is proud to have assisted as a volunteer at both the 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games in London this August and September. A HEALTH and social care worker in Walsall – who met Usain Bolt at the Olympics – also volunteered at the Paralympic Games.

Keith Nye, aged 47, has been one of the many Paralympic Games assistants. Mr Nye, of Penkridge, who works in health and social care for Walsall Council, was an Olympic VIP volunteer when he drove one of the vice-presidents of the International

Olympic Committee. Mr Nye has been a friend of Seb Coe since the pair ran together when studying at Loughborough University. "It was great" he said. "Seb Coe asked in 2007 whether I would be interested in working for LOCOG (London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games). I got to meet Usain Bolt track when he was warming up for 100m semi finals. He was very relaxed and laid back."

THE FORMER deputy manager of a Walsall care home who plundered more than £4,000 from the accounts of a 92-year-old man and his terminally-ill wife has been spared an immediate jail term.

Tracey Keates stole bank cards from the couple's room at Harden Hall care home in Coalpool Lane.

The 36-year-old, of Marbury Drive, Bilston, made four withdrawals from their accounts using cash machines during April and May, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard last week.

Mr Richard Franck, prosecuting, said she was rumpled when the victim noticed his 85-year-old wife's purse missing and their accounts dwindling.

## CCTV

A police inquiry revealed Keates had been caught on CCTV at cash machines across the Black Country making withdrawals.

Keates admitted stealing the £4,355.40, telling them she had just come out of a violent relationship and had debts from pay day loans.

She admitted two charges of theft and one of fraud by false representation.

Recorder Andrew Eastale, sentencing Keates, called her behaviour "disgusting" and said it had caused "huge distress". He said: "The care home was the place they had gone because they felt they needed help and care and security. That is what you stole from them. A terminally ill woman and her elderly husband, you stole their peace of mind."

She was handed a 12-month prison sentence, suspended for 24 months, with a 12-month supervision requirement.

She was also told to do 200 hours unpaid work and pay back the full amount stolen in compensation within 28 days.



Tracey Keates – must pay back the money she stole

After hearing her fate, the Keates said: "I'm really sorry. I'm paying back the full amount."

Recorder Andrew Eastale ordered her to pay back the £4,355.40 which she withdrew from the elderly couple's accounts using a Lloyds TSB bank card and MasterCard.

The court heard she had found the cards in a room at the care home in Coalpool Lane. She stole the money in April and May this year and was dismissed from her role after the thefts emerged.

Mark Greaves, of Ideal Care Homes, said staff had kept in close contact with the families of the victims.

He added: "We undertook all the required checks with regards to the background of this person. We are hugely disappointed she breached trust."

The court heard that part of the cash went towards a deposit on a house.

Mr Eastale, sentencing Keates, told her: "You have emerged from two violent relationships. Other people manage far worse and don't resort to the sort of disgusting behaviour you did."

## Keen eye of a witness put burglar behind bars

A BURGLAR who committed a string of offences across Walsall and Warwickshire has been jailed.

Luke McDonnell, aged 26 from Hudson Road, Rugby, pleaded guilty to breaking into three properties in the Walsall area in July.

McDonnell admitted breaking into an address on Holtshill Lane, Walsall, on July 23 where he stole a laptop and other items.

## Description

He was arrested the same day when a police officer spotted him in Digbeth after a witness was able to supply a description of the offender.

He later admitted to another burglary on Rugeley Avenue, New Invention, which happened on July 27 and an attempted burglary at Sutton Road, Walsall, on July 24. McDonnell also admitted to two burglaries in Warwickshire. He was sentenced to 21 months at Rugby Crown Court.

Pc Kerrie Atkinson, from Walsall CID, said: "We would like to take this opportunity to thank the public for their information."

"The description that was given was so good that an officer on routine patrol was able to recognise a man that fitted the description and we were able to take immediate action."

## College gets A star rating

HUNDREDS of students at a Walsall college have given it an A\* rating in a new learner survey.

More than 700 people who studied at Walsall Adult and Community College in the past academic year have taken part in the survey.

Students were asked to rate the college's teaching, learning, assessment methods, course organisation and general facilities.

The survey showed 96.3 per cent of learners rated the college's teaching methods as good or outstanding and 98.4 per cent said they were satisfied or extremely satisfied with their overall learning experience.

## New weekly walk

A NEW weekly walk is being launched from a community centre in Bloxwich every Wednesday. It will set off from the Stan Ball Centre, in Abbot's Street, and will last for 30 minutes. Walkers should meet at 9am.

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## Concern at lack of new homes in Darlaston

Just 30 new homes have been built in the past year in Darlaston – despite planning permission being in place for more than 1,000.

A councillor in Darlaston South hit out at the lack of new homes in the area, despite swathes of land being derelict. Council bosses said the problem was a national one.

Seventeen new homes were completed in Darlaston South in the past financial year. A further 13 were completed in the neighbouring Bentley and Darlaston North ward.

Across the borough, 539 new homes were built, despite planning permission existing for 3,632.

Planning permission exists for 1,026 homes in Darlaston that have not yet been started.

Councillor Doug James, representative for Darlaston South, said: "Urgent investment and delivery is needed to provide homes for young families, local people and bring neglected brownfield sites back into production."

He claimed waiting lists for new homes were growing. "It's a particular problem in Darlaston South," he added.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, cabinet member for regeneration, said: "This is a major national issue, not just a Walsall one."

## Green light for shops revamp

IMPROVEMENTS to refurbish and renovate shop fronts in Willenhall town centre have been backed by council chiefs.

Moves to carry out work, in Stafford Street, were approved by Walsall Council planning bosses under delegated powers.

The application said: "The buildings in question are in need of renovation and would benefit greatly from replacement of the metal shopfront as well as remedial works to the other shopfronts, windows and roofspace."

"The area generally would benefit from the changes now proposed, which would improve the appearance and ensure these buildings remain sound for the foreseeable future."

It added: "The buildings have been in retail use for many years and are currently a Café, a Nail Bar and a Childrens Centre."

# More than £90,000 bonus payments to officers

BONUSES totalling more than £90,000 were paid to some of the highest-earning senior officers at Walsall Council in the past two years.

Nine employees, some of whom already earn six-figure salaries, shared the performance-related cash pot between them.

Council chiefs revealed performance-related bonuses have been scrapped for the new financial year due to the economic

climate. Walsall Council has over the past few years had to make savings of £65 million. However, a total of £90,466 of taxpayer's money has been paid out in bonuses in the past two years, with £54,381 in 2011/12 and £36,085 in 2010/11.

### Executive

Among those to receive bonuses was chief executive Paul Sheehan who pocketed a

£10,860 bonus last year and £11,201 the year before. This came on top of a salary of £189,533.

Finance boss Councillor Chris Towe said: "These payments were made in the past when very specific targets were met."

"That said, in the era of austerity, we abolished the PERP scheme last year resulting in a cut in pay for the council's most senior staff from this year."

The bonus payments were revealed in Walsall Council's summary of accounts for 2011 to 2012, which are available for the public to view.

Councillor Pete Smith, of the Democratic Labour Party, welcomed the stopping of bonus payments.

He said: "The senior officers of Walsall Council receive very generous salaries without bonuses on top."

# Working group look at future of markets

A REVIEW of markets is being carried out in Walsall in a bid to boost trade as councillors want to increase the number of visitors to pitches in Willenhall and Bloxwich.

They will also look at the main Walsall town centre market, which will need to find a permanent new home in the coming years. A designated working group has been set up to review the issues.

Members will talk to traders and investigate why some market days are more profitable than others.

Councillor Carl Creaney is leading the overview. He said the intention was to ensure the likes of Bloxwich and Willenhall survive. They are not as profitable as the main Walsall market.

"It is looking at more ways of increasing the footfall," he said. "Markets are important to the community and this is to make sure they survive."

"At the market in Willenhall the worst day is a Saturday and the Wednesday is thriving. We are trying to find out why that is."

### Profitable

"One of the objectives is to make the markets a lot more profitable."

Figures showed more than £287,000 was generated from council-run markets in the last financial year, largely due to the success of Walsall market.

Walsall market created an income of £313,745 and Bloxwich £8,211, which covered the £34,231 loss at Willenhall.

Statistics released this summer showed the average take up of stalls at Walsall is 90 per cent before dropping to 59 on Wednesdays.

In Willenhall on a Wednesday it averages 86 per cent, 75 on a Friday and drops on a Saturday to 69 per cent.

In Bloxwich, the most popular day is Friday with 80 per cent of stalls on average filled.

## TV star returns to theatre where his career began

IT IS 27 years since Walsall actor Don Gilet, who played EastEnders villain Lucas Johnson, appeared on stage at the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton.

It was one of his first paid performances before he left his Black Country home for London to follow his dreams of becoming an actor.

Next month he will return to the Grand for the first time since the mid-1980s to star in the comedy Bouncers. And the 44-year-old admitted he was looking forward to returning to the area and was expecting lots of family members to turn up and see him in the show.

"All my family are coming, from my father to all my cousins," he said. "They all still live in the area. The last time I performed at the Grand was back in 1985 in a play called Love Me Love Me Locks. It feels such a long time ago. It was one of my first paid jobs. I've not been back since."

Gilet is probably best known for playing twisted killer Lucas Johnson in TV soap EastEnders, a role he said was a joy to play.



Grand return – Don Gilet

"I loved playing Lucas. I had a great time on EastEnders. I often get recognised as Lucas on the street and in shops. People will joke with me and say things like 'you better serve him, or he will get you'. It still happens now, two years after leaving the show."

Gilet also starred in BBC One police drama 55 Degrees North as Detective Sergeant Nicky Cole.

Gilet grew up in Caldmore. He left at the age of 19 to go to Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts in North London.

## Saddlers legend drops in



Former player and manager Alan Buckley with Tony Waterfield, Stephen Hanson, Bob Dyal and Toni Waterfield and members of the independent supporters' club

SADDLERS legend Alan Buckley dropped into a Walsall town centre pub to meet and greet members of a new supporters' club.

The Independent Saddlers Club, based at the Cuckoo and Bell Pub in Stafford Street, was set up in February and already has 250 members.

Former Walsall FC manager and player Mr Buckley spent the evening chatting to more than 100 fans who turned up. He also

posed for pictures and spoke about his career.

The Independent Saddlers Club has been set up by Bob Dyal. Pub landlord Steve Hanson, aged 56, said: "The event was brilliant, lots of people came and Alan Buckley was just great."

More than 100 people turned out to meet the former striker, raising more than £500 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

## NEWS in brief

### Two pairs of new semis to be built

FOUR homes are to be built in the Aldridge area under plans to develop a run down site.

The properties are earmarked for land at the junction of Bosty Lane and Daw End Lane.

The proposals for two pairs of semi-detached properties was lodged with Walsall Council. The application has been agreed by planning officers under delegated powers.

### Employment law is on the agenda

AN ORGANISATION supporting community groups is hosting a workshop on employment law in Walsall next month.

Walsall Voluntary Action is running the workshop with HBC Solicitors on October 16 at the County Hotel, Birmingham Road, from 9.30am. It costs £15. Book on (01922) 619840.

### Stone memorial to be dedicated

THE ARCHDEACON of Walsall will dedicate a new war memorial at a Great Barr church after the old memorial at St Margaret's was a target for malarious thieves. A stone memorial at the Chapel Lane church will be dedicated by the Venerable Christopher Sims on Saturday at 2pm.

### Apple bobbing at Forest's fun day

A FUN day including apple bobbing, a bouncy castle and face painting will be held in Walsall to raise money for Heart Care at the Forest Arts Centre, Hawbush Road, Leamore, on Sunday from 11am. Admission is free.

### Focus on fashion from Austen era

JANE Austen fans can learn about Georgian period fashion at Walsall Museum, Lichfield Street, today (Thursday) at a talk by Sheila Shreeve from 1.30pm. To book call (01922) 653116.

### Centre screens War Horse epic

STEVEN Spielberg film War Horse will be shown at Leamore's Forest Arts Centre tomorrow (Friday) at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £2 and £1 (concessions) on the door.

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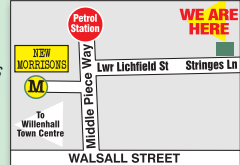
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## NEWS

### Robbers target stores with female staff

ARMED robbers are watching convenience stores and raiding those where women staff are working alone and into the night, say police.

Criminals struck 12 times last month in the Black Country, stealing tens of thousands of pounds of goods, including cigarettes, after bursting into stores across Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley and Sandwell, armed with weapons including axes.

The surge in tobacco prices has created a lucrative market for thieves. Many of the stolen packets will be sold throughout the Black Country.

#### Identifying

West Midlands Police spokesman Lee Page said: "We are working on identifying the groups involved and it is fair to say we are following a number of strong lines of inquiry."

"It is clear that cigarettes are being taken somewhere to be sold and we'd be keen to hear from anyone who may know where they are being sold."

He added: "It looks like these groups are looking at stores that have got females working alone or two women working together."

During August, there were five raids in Sandwell, three in Dudley and one each in Wolverhampton and Walsall.

## Boss promising a sensible approach to bus lane fines

MOVES to film motorists driving on bus lanes in Walsall will be relaxed due to concerns that one of the borough's main roads is too narrow.

A mobile camera is being introduced to target motorists who illegally queue-jump. But fears have been expressed that drivers using Bloxwich Road are forced into the bus lane because of the lack of width.

Lorries and buses travelling towards Bloxwich sometimes have to veer onto the opposite carriageway due to parked vehicles. This means cars going in the other direction have to go into the bus lane.

Walsall Council chiefs said "common sense" will be applied along Bloxwich Road and say that those who are unavoidably forced into the bus lane will not be issued with £60 fines.

Highways chiefs admitted there are no plans to widen the route.

#### Removed

Blakenall councillor Pete Smith said the bus lane should be removed entirely for safety reasons.

"It is a hazard, there are definitely problems as you approach the junction," he said.

Transport boss councillor Tom Ansell said: "There aren't any plans to widen this stretch of road. If drivers have no choice but to use the bus lane then they will not be fined. If they use the lane for convenience, then yes, they can expect to be charged."

"It goes without saying that a little common sense will prevail with issues such as this."

A mobile camera is due to come into force next month. Those caught on camera will be issued with a £60 fine, which will be halved if paid within 14 days. Those who fail to pay within 56 days will see the bill rise to £90.

### Veterans raise a glass to Joe



Joe Davies, front right, at Short Heath Royal British Legion with Jack Baker and other veterans to celebrate his 90th birthday

A WAR veteran who went from police officer to travelling showman has celebrated his 90th birthday.

Joe Davies was honoured by fellow members of the Parachute Regimental Association at a surprise party where he was made a life vice president of the group. The great-grandfather was honoured as more than 20 members of the Wolverhampton and district branch joined in celebration at the Royal British Legion Club in Short Heath.

Mr Davies served with the Royal

Army Service Corps between 1942-46 and later joined West Midlands Police where he became a superintendent. During his time with the force he was based across Wolverhampton, Brierley Hill and Birmingham. He later became known as a travelling showman playing his Lady Wulfruna organ.

Mr Davies, of Compton, said "I get a great deal of pleasure out of meeting my old comrades. It is good to reminisce with them."

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NEWS

# School transformation has got the wow factor



Principal Bernard Dickenson at the revamped Sheffield Academy

**THE SECOND** phase of a multi-million pound transformation of a Walsall secondary school has been completed as the full scheme enters the final stage.

The £23 million redevelopment of Sheffield Academy is creating modern 21st century facilities at the site in Broad Way.

The second phase which includes ICT, theatre, music and drama departments has been going on for the last nine months and was finished over the summer ahead of the new school year.

## Language

The third phase with new business and modern languages blocks is due for completion within six weeks so it will be ready after half-term.

Old buildings will be demolished creating parking and play facilities.

Principal Bernard Dickenson said they were delighted with the new-look school.

"The youngsters have come in and gone 'wow,' it is fantastic and they absolutely love it," he said.

"It provides them with state-of-the-art facilities."

## Bike ride to boost anti-cancer fund

A BUSINESSMAN has completed a charity bike ride and raised thousands of pounds in the fight against prostate cancer.

Tim Windsor, head of business development at Birmingham-based consultancy Curium Solutions, rode from London to Paris, covering more than 300 miles in aid of his father Stewart, who was diagnosed with prostate cancer last year.

The Willenhall resident raised just under £3,000 for Everyman, a national prostate and testicular campaign run by the Institute of Cancer Research.

Mr Windsor said: "I only got a bike last November before than I hadn't ridden one for 12 years but I prepared myself as best as possible. I stopped smoking."

More than 100 people took part in the challenge including Mr Windsor's friend Matthew Beech, aged 41 from Whitmore Reans.

Together the pair arrived in Paris in 39-degree heat to rounds of applause from crowds.

To donate to Mr Windsor's fundraising total visit [uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/windsorbeech](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/windsorbeech)

## Hospice cookbook

A COOKBOOK full of recipes and reflections from a lifetime spent preparing food for loved ones is on sale in aid of St Giles Walsall Hospice.

Linda Smith compiled the collection of favourite dishes, including several from her friends, after retiring from teaching at Brownhills School. She died this year.

## Sweet

The recipes range from pickles to sweet pie pastry, fudge and fondue.

The cookbook is available to order online for £5 plus postage from the website at: [lindasmithcharitycookbook.wordpress.com](http://lindasmithcharitycookbook.wordpress.com)

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## LETTERS

# Failure to build homes

WALSALL Council has been allocated £120,884 in 2013/14 to prevent homelessness by central Government. We need every single pound!

In 2011/12 only 18 new houses were completed in Darlaston South.

Indeed, in the previous two years only 272 houses were built to provide homes for local people – a complete failure in terms of housing and regeneration by Tory-led Walsall Council.

Planning permission has been granted for several hundred homes at

neglected brownfield sites that blight our local environment.

However, sites at Harrowby Road, Darlaston Road and Heathfield Lane West evidence how the gap between proposals and actual delivery has failed local people.

How has Walsall Council allocated the Government-funded New Homes Bonus? Not in wards with the highest waiting lists or overcrowding levels.

In Moxley residents are still living in damp houses.

Walsall Council, housing regeneration, social housing providers, private sector providers have failed Darlaston

over 12 years. Urgent investment and delivery is needed to provide Houses for young families, local people, and bring neglected brownfield sites back into production.

It is all down to the Tory-led Coalition and the so-called 'Independents' who failed to vote for change.

Their actions support this tragic failure in housing. It is a failure that leaves many in desperate need for housing options across our communities.

**COUNCILLOR DOUG JAMES**  
Horton Street  
Darlaston

# Chickens are not welcome

I HAVE a good-sized allotment and it serves me well, being retired it does help with food costs.

Recently I sent an email to the council re keeping chickens on my plot. I said I have all the support in place from the public health and the animal welfare.

If I was to go away on holiday, I can take my hens to be holidayed at a farm where they came from.

I understand that there must be the correct housing and welfare for the birds.

My request was refused on the basis that the council don't allow livestock on allotments. They may look at it in the future. That I can understand but when we are asked to go self-sufficient and grow our own, keeping chickens is a part of this.

I was amazed to find out that other boroughs around Walsall allow this.

I look forward to hearing from other allotment holders in Walsall who have asked the same question.

**Name and address supplied**

# Fond memories of Max

I AM sad to hear of the death of Max Bygraves. He was one of the last of the Vaudevilian acts and a great homey one at that, who knew how to entertain the public on the radio, TV, stage and via mediums such as the record and cassette.

People will be listening to good old Max for many years to come.

I often remember many a happy time in the 1970s and 1980s at my late gran's house in Prince Street, Pleck, with other family members singing with great gusto to 'The Tulips of Old Amsterdam', as well as many other hits he made famous during his time as one of Britain's greatest singers and entertainers.

## Happiness

Max kindly sent me a signed photo of himself in the 1990s, which was to become one of the last he ever sent to fans generally. He brought much happiness to the lives of the British public and will be missed for many years to come.

RIP in your very own field of Tulips now Max.

**IAN PAYNE**  
Thornbury Road  
Walsall

## LETTERS

## to the Editor

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Wolverhampton  
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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NEWS

# Return of sports fields worth heavy lorry traffic

## £2.7m training centre opens



Richard Jolly (The Vine Trust), Ashley Critchlow (Bespoke), Kevin Davies (CEO of The Vine Trust), Simon Ganley (MD of Bespoke), Dominic Goold (Goold Estates), Tom McGuinness (Bespoke) and Mark Watkins (St Modwen) outside the new Goldmine centre in Walsall

GOLDMINE, a state-of-the-art £2.7 million youth training centre in Walsall town centre that is set to house the new Walsall Studio School, has been completed.

Developers St Modwen and Goold Estates have handed over the 20,000 sq ft building in Lower Hall Lane to operators The Vine Trust.

It was constructed by Bespoke Construction Services.

The impressive building boasts training rooms, a library, offices and multipurpose space for public performance that will initially be used

by the Trust to provide training, learning, advice and guidance to local young people.

### Skills

The Walsall Studio School is set to open in 2013, providing 14-19 year olds with the opportunity to study GCSEs, A Levels and vocational projects while boosting their skills with paid weekly work placements.

Goldmine forms part of St. Modwen and Goold Estates' £90 million St. Matthew's Quarter regeneration scheme.

LEISURE chiefs insist that short-term inconvenience caused by work to re-open contaminated playing fields in Walsall will be worthwhile in the long run.

The six-week scheme to bring Broadway West Playing Fields back into use for ball games is being carried out this month.

Ball games have been banned for almost a decade after dangerous metals were found in soil samples but a £400,000 project to bring them back into use has been agreed.

This includes the installation of an engineering cap and new top soil.

Residents and motorists have been warned more than 20 lorries a day are due to arrive at the site.

### Valuable

But leisure chief councillor Anthony Harris said: "While there are impacts associated with any large scale construction activity it is felt that the benefits of returning this valuable sports area back into formal use is well worth the possibility of some short term inconvenience."

"The council is investing a lot of time and effort on this project and will continue to liaise with residents and interested parties on how best to use this asset in the future."

Despite the work, sports will still not be able to take place on the site until next year.

## Prompt end to works is costing council dear

THE amount of extra income from financial penalties imposed on utility companies for over-running roadworks in Walsall is set to be more than £130,000 less than expected.

Walsall Council can claim cash where schemes are unreasonably prolonged without informing the highway authority. Figures reveal that the amount, under section 74, is due to be £138,000 lower than anticipated this summer.

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## NEWS

### Finishing touches at new rugby clubhouse

THE finishing touches are being made to a new £350,000 clubhouse at an arson-hit rugby club in Walsall.

Work on the new structure at Aldridge Rugby Club is on track to finish this month and a grand opening is being planned.

The club secured £120,000 funding from two sports bodies towards the project.

The new-look facility will have changing rooms, a meeting room, dining space, showers, toilets and a bar.

It will also allow the club to introduce more teams and comes after a suspected arson attack at the Bourne Vale site in 2009.

Planning permission was granted last year for the scheme and the club has had £70,000 of funding from the Rugby Football Union and £50,000 from Sport England.

### Council will help waste firm move to protect jobs

FORMAL notices regarding enforcement action have been served on a waste company that came under fire after claims dust from the site was blowing on to gravestones at a Darlaston cemetery.

AB Waste was criticised by people complaining that dust was settling on headstones at James Bridge Cemetery.

It emerged that the Cemetery Road firm had extended operations onto the site of the former Railway Inn, in Kendricks Road, and the Junction Works site, off Cemetery Road.

But neither site has the relevant planning permission for the range of their current uses.

Walsall Council's deputy leader Councillor Adrian Andrew said: "We're working with the company to help them relocate to a more suitable site to maintain jobs in the borough."

#### Monitored

"Formal notices have been served on the company and the next step will be to serve the enforcement notices on all relevant parties requiring cessation of operations if necessary."

"The Cemetery Road site is still operating and conditions there are being monitored by council officers."

Councillor Andrew added: "It's our duty to honour the promise we made to residents who asked us to intervene but it's worth remembering this is a legal process that takes time. But we are now moving well along that process."

An enforcement notice gives the firm six months to cease work on the Junction Works site and three months to cease work on the former pub site.

The authority stated the reason for taking enforcement action was because the use of the land was harmful to the amenity of the area through appearance, noise, traffic and dust spreading to the cemetery.

### Gallery is a key part of the future vision for town centre

REOPENING Walsall New Art Gallery on Sundays will help the "renaissance" of the town, says the council's leisure chief.

The £21 million building will extend its hours from September 30.

The aim is to draw in more visitors and boost the gallery's bid to host the prestigious Turner Prize art competition.

The town is undergoing major regeneration work with a hotel opening at the nearby Waterfront soon.

It also emerged that a new leisure and shopping complex is being lined up at land near to Tesco.

Walsall Council want the modern gallery to remain a centre piece of the town.

#### Economic

The borough's leisure chief councillor Anthony Harris said: "Walsall's renaissance is continuing and restoring Sunday opening at the gallery will support the Coalition's vision for providing sustained economic development and growth."

There are no plans to take on additional staff at the iconic building. However, it is expected to cost £15,000 up to the end of the financial year in March to re-open the gallery, which employs 30 staff, on Sundays.

### Danger of 'cowboy' gas fitters being highlighted

A HOUSING association in Walsall is highlighting the dangers of employing 'cowboy' gas fitters.

Caldmoreaccord Housing Association representatives are visiting homes in Vicarage Place, Sister Dora Gardens, Pleck Road, Hatherton Street, Buckle Close and Lower North Street. The social landlord will raise awareness of the dangers of employing unqualified gas fitters. It will also promote its free annual gas safety checks and hand out free carbon monoxide monitors.

Jim Williams, from Caldmoreaccord, said: "Employing unqualified gas fitters, who aren't Gas Safe registered, to carry out work in their homes is not only dangerous but can also breach their tenancy agreement if they rent a home with us."



## NEWS

# Students stay closer to home because of costs

## Paralympic torch visit



Saddlers manager Dean Smith with the Mayor and Mayoress of Walsall Dennis and Kathleen Anson with Sainsbury's representative Dave Roach and the Paralympic Torch in Walsall

SHOPPERS were given the chance to see the Paralympic torch in Walsall as part of its tour.

Walsall FC manager Dean Smith and Mayor and Mayoress of Walsall Dennis and Kathleen Anson got a

closer look at Sainsbury's, in Reedswood Way. The supermarket's workers from stores across the region, including Oldbury and Cannock, went along to the celebrations.

**A-LEVEL** pupils across the Black Country who would normally be expected to go to top ranking universities further afield are choosing to stay closer to home because of the hike in tuition fees, according to education bosses.

Many pupils who gained their results this summer are choosing to commute and live at home, go to cheaper universities or have decided not to go to university at all. Estimates reveal that students could end up leaving university with a student debt of around £40,000.

Helen Keenan, from Brownhills School in Walsall, said she has seen more pupils choose to go to university closer to home.

She explained: "We actually have more pupils going to university this year but the way they are choosing a university has changed."

"Pupils are looking at the financial consequences of the university they choose."

Pank Patel, headteacher at Wednesbury's Wood Green Academy, said he had seen a big difference this year.

"Some pupils I would normally have expected to go off to red brick universities are choosing to stay local, or go to universities which have lower fees," he said. "Others I would have previously expected to go to university are deciding to go straight into work."

Claire Evans, headteacher of Wednesfield High School in Wolverhampton, said she had not seen a drop in the number of university applications. But she had noticed some students who would have usually chosen to live in digs in Birmingham while attending the city's universities were instead choosing to stay at home.

## Murder mystery night

A MURDER mystery evening will be held at the Leather Museum, in Walsall town centre, on Friday, September 21. Book places on (01922) 721153.

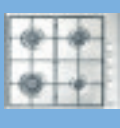
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# NEWS

## £1 taxi fares failing to attract customers

A SCHEME that allows people to flag down a black cab and travel into Walsall town centre for just £1 is failing, say cabbies.

Black cab drivers said there had been minimal interest in Town for a Pound, launched around three months ago.

The scheme aims to combat the "dead mileage" of journeys back to the taxi rank and increase town centre footfall.

Mirza Khalid, chairman of the Hackney Carriage Association in Walsall, said it may be a sign of the times and claimed business in the borough was at the slowest pace he had experienced in 12 years driving taxis.

Mr Khalid, aged 41, said: "We haven't had a very good response so far. We have had some people on weekends but during the week there's nothing."

### Unaffordable

"We are still going to run it but a group of drivers will be getting together to consider the best way of advertising it."

He added: "It's so slow at the moment. I've never seen it this bad. This year has been horrendous."

He said the taxi business was becoming unaffordable and some were giving up.

He added: "I used to be able to take £100 on a Friday night and last Friday I only took £35, before I had to pay out for anything."

Cabs taking part in the Town for a Pound scheme display a yellow oval bumper sticker with a "£" symbol on it. A similar scheme has proved successful in Bradford.

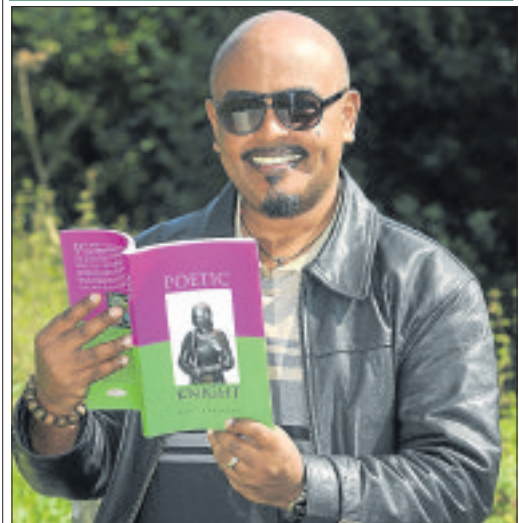
Fare increases for passengers in black cabs in Walsall also came into force in June.

## Shropshire ramble

THE Walsall group of the Ramblers will be heading to the Shropshire hills for a circular moderate walk in the Craven Arms area on Sunday.

Anyone wanting to take part in the 9.25 mile walk should call (01922) 455257.

## Nat has a way with words



Walsall wordsmith Nat Berhanu with his book of poems, *Poetic Knight* A POET from Walsall is celebrating after having his first book published. Nat Berhanu, aged 44, of Birchills, wrote the 150 poems which feature in his book, *Poetic Knight*, over a period of six years.

The NHS Direct advisor said: "I started writing the poems down on pieces of paper in 2006 and eventually I started putting them together in one book. There are poems on lots of different things including war, faith, my favourite football team Arsenal, the Queen and the landscape of this country." *Poetic Knight* is available to buy from Amazon and selected stores and is priced at £13.99 or £3.99 as an e-book.



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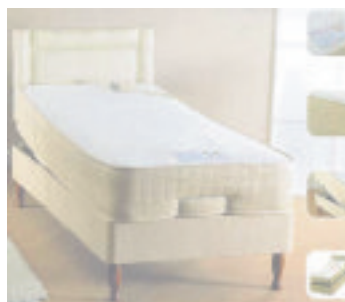


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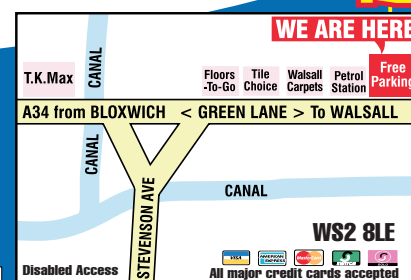
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## NEWS

# Closing patients' centre funds will be reinvested

## Boxing is a hit with girls



Girl power – boxers Sophie Doughton and Clemmie Blakemore, both aged 11, with coaches Wayne Elcock and Shannon Cooks, centre, at the boxing course run at Moxley People's Centre

A BOXING scheme has proved a knockout success in the Black Country, with girls inspired by Olympic gold medalist Nicola Adams signing up for lessons in the sport.

A six-week course has been running on Mondays at Moxley People's Centre, in Queen Street, over the summer holidays, led by former British and WBU middleweight champion Wayne Elcock. Every week, up to 20 youngsters

have been turning up to be put through their paces by the former boxing champ.

### Coach

Mr Elcock said: "The turnout in Moxley has been really great every week and we've definitely seen more girls giving it a go."

Mr Elcock even enlisted the help of a female boxing coach, Shannon Cooks, to help encourage even more girls to join in.

MONEY used to fund a doomed rehabilitation centre in Walsall will be reinvested into other care services in the borough, council bosses say.

Around £1 million is invested annually in Rushall Mews which has supported more than 1,000 discharged hospital patients over the past few years but is closing on October 1. Services will move to Hollybank House, in Willenhall, and funding is to be reinvested in that facility.

There will also be services supporting people at home.

A total of 59 staff currently employed by Housing 21 will become employees of Walsall Council under the transfer.

Council bosses say the change may involve a small number of voluntary redundancies but no compulsory redundancies are planned.

### Independence

Councillor Barbara McCracken, Walsall Council's portfolio holder for social care and health, said: "We want to stress that we are working towards redesigning our services so that residents are supported to regain their independence through reablement and return home as soon as possible."

"The current service provided at Rushall Mews, which offers only temporary accommodation and support, will continue in the form of a beds based intermediate care centre at Hollybank House as well as with our Frail Elderly Pathway, which means more older people are supported to live at home and avoid a return to hospital."

She said staff at the New Street centre played a key role in the transfer.

"The funding associated with Rushall Mews is being reinvested to ensure that the Frail Elderly Pathway and Hollybank House have the right level of service to meet the needs of older people for intermediate care services."

"No savings are planned from this change in 2012/13 and a decision on the level of savings from April 2013 onwards will be discussed in the next round of budget talks."

### Spate of car plate thefts

A RISE in the cases of theft of car number plates in Walsall has prompted a warning from police.

Motorists are urged to ensure their plates are fixed securely after a spate of thefts in the Pleck and Alumwell areas.



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**CLUB NEWS****Members told about Troop Aid****BLACKHEATH "M" TOWNSWOMEN**

CHAIRMAN Doreen Armstrong opened the meeting. She welcomed all members present and the speaker for the day, Mrs A Sutton.

Reports were given by treasurer, Beryl Hartley, outings co-ordinator Brenda Ellesmore and press secretary Iris Harris.

It was announced that guild members would be taking part in a sponsored walk in aid of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers.

The monthly raffle was held by Heather Greenland and three ladies received prizes of hand towels.

At the end of guild business, the chairman introduced the speaker, whose talk was entitled "Troop Aid". It was founded in 2006 by three ex-servicemen, one of whom was Mrs Sutton's husband. The object is to supply basic essentials to military casualties, returning from overseas. Grab bags containing things like toiletries, writing paper and envelopes, underwear and socks are sent to field hospitals abroad and at home including the Queen Elizabeth in Birmingham.

Ladies were very moved by the talk and were pleased to help by purchasing objects on sale. A vote of thanks was given by Iris Harris and a cheque was presented.

The next meeting will be held at 10.30am on September 26 at the Moose Hall, Beeches Road, Blackheath.

**Guests' address both uplifting and graphic**

Margaret and Eugene Schellenberg of the Ifakara Bakery were the guest speakers

ONE visitor was welcomed to the August meeting at Kingswinford Community Centre.

After the reading and signing of the minutes, Enid Fennell read the Federation report in full. The various groups reported on their doings. The luncheon club venues from September until January 2013 were distributed. The Christmas luncheon, by popular request will be at Hagley Golf and Country Club.

Josie Smith was thanked for her floral

**KINGSWINFORD TWG**

arrangement. Speakers were Margaret and Eugene Schellenberg who gave graphic and uplifting description of the formation of the Ifakara bakery in Tanzania.

A collection was taken to aid the continuation of this splendid project and Sue Cotterell gave thanks.

Raffle winners were Barbara White, Josie Smith and Sandra Gray.

**Air Ambulance talk topic**

THE chairman welcomed 24 members to the August meeting.

The reading and signing of the previous meeting was followed by the financial report. Mrs Raybould was present at the recent federation meeting and gave information about it. There was no correspondence.

The social secretary gave information about the visit

**QUARRY BANK E TWG**

to Highgrove, to include a two-hour guided tour with time to visit the restaurant and gift shop.

The Harvest Supper is to be held on October 10 at Wollaston Community Centre. The speaker for the evening was Mr Geoff Wood-

ford, his topic "The Midlands Air Ambulance".

This is the 21st year that the Air Ambulance has been operational and every time the helicopter takes to the air it costs £2,500 and that is funded completely by voluntary contributions.

The next guild meeting will be on September 18 with a talk about being a TV extra.

**NHS**  
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# Annual General Meeting

NHS Walsall would like to invite you to attend the Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Thursday 27 September 2012 at Blakenall Village Centre, Thames Road, Blakenall, Walsall WS3 1LZ.

Please join us from 3.00 pm for some light refreshments and a chance to put forward any questions you might have before the meeting begins at 3.30 pm.

If you would like any further information please call 01922 618388.





## NEWS

## Planners explain car wash support

THE opening of a car wash on the site of a former petrol station in Bloxwich will not cause traffic chaos, council bosses insist.

Temporary three-year permission for the hand wash and valeting service at the Field Service Station site has been backed by Walsall Council planners.

There were fears over extra traffic in Lichfield Road but the plan has received the go-ahead because it is a thriving business that is creating jobs.

The borough's head of planning David Elsworth said: "The use would bring a vacant, previously developed site back into use, creating jobs and improving the visual appearance of the land."

A proposal for a convenience store for the same location was rejected last year because of site layout and parking concerns.

The car wash will be open seven days a week, from 9am to 7pm on weekdays and 10am to 4pm at weekends.

## Footballer took part in 'shocking' burglary

A PROMISING footballer, who played for Walsall FC as a youth, has been jailed for his part in a terrifying burglary in which a mother and her children were threatened with a hammer.

Midfielder Shylo Thomas, aged 21, who had been a star player for Atherstone and more recently played for conference side Tamworth, was part of a balaclava-clad gang who kicked their way in to a house in Pye Hayes, Erdington, to threaten the family in June last year.

Thomas and two accomplices smashed down the door of a bedroom where the woman and two children, aged four and six, were hiding. She was able to raise the alarm and her husband arrived to confront the gang as they fled with £1,000.

Police were able to trace the gang after he noted the registration of the gang's Audi A3 getaway car.



Footballer Shylo Thomas - jailed for role in a burglary

Police said the car was reported stolen a few hours later by a man who had reportedly acted as a getaway driver. Mobile phone analysis later led police to other gang members Sean Edwards and Stephen Subhan.

Thomas, of Court Lane, Erdington, received a six-year jail sentence after being

found guilty of aggravated burglary at Birmingham Crown Court.

Edwards, aged 31, of The Radleys, Sheldon, was also given six years while Cameron Fleary-Young, aged 21, of Barnesville Close, Small Heath, who acted as a getaway driver, got two years. Subhan, aged 25, from Erdington, was given five years in jail.

## Involved

Detective Constable Alan Reeves, of West Midlands Police, said afterwards: "Thomas was described as a star player with his former club. He could have had a bright future so it's inexplicable he'd throw away that potential by getting involved in what was a shocking burglary."

"Our investigation and subsequent jailing of these men has dismantled an organised crime gang that was involved with drug preparation and supply, money laundering and theft offences."

## NEWS

## in brief

## Leap into action to help Red Cross

THE British Red Cross are looking for adventurous individuals to take part in an abseil down a famous Walsall building.

The adrenalin-fuelled charity sponsored event is to take place on October 6 at the Walsall New Art Gallery, in Gallery Square. A trained team will help with the descent. To participate a £35 registration fee is required and £100 in sponsorship. Sign up online at [www.redcross.org.uk/events](http://www.redcross.org.uk/events) or contact Jackie Ord, of the Red Cross, on 02476 304200.

## Four Seasons is garden on show

AN AWARD-WINNING garden in Walsall will open to the public later this month.

Tony and Marie Newton's Four Seasons Garden in Buchanan Road will be open to view on September 23 from 10am to 5pm. Admission is £3 for adults. Proceeds will go to Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

## Forest floating to canal near gallery

ARTWORK The Rootless Forest, a mobile forest made of real trees and soil planted on a barge, is coming to Walsall. It will be moored on the canal near the New Art Gallery from September 20 to October 7. To find out more visit website [www.therootlessforest.com](http://www.therootlessforest.com)

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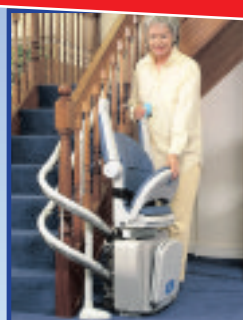
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## Chester & Liverpool 4 Star Christmas Shopping Mini Break £69

Christmas shopping in two contrasting destinations, Chester has a beautiful old world feel while Liverpool is modern with lots of top name shops. Plus 4 star hotel with dinner and breakfast!



### Look what's included...

**Sunday:** Meet our coach this morning for the drive to Chester. The city is a lively place on a Sunday; you'll find all the shops, cosy pubs and tea rooms open. You could enjoy a cruise on the river or walk the famous Roman Walls that surround the town centre. After a good afternoon in Chester we go to our hotel.

**Monday:** Enjoy breakfast, then we board the coach to Liverpool. The coach will park up in the new Liverpool ONE shopping centre area which is right in the city centre so if you want a change from the shops, everything else is on your doorstep including; Albert Dock, here you'll find The Beatles Story and many other attractions. We leave Liverpool mid-afternoon for home.

### Mercury Hotel, Chester ★★★★★

Located just outside the city, indoor pool, spa bath & sauna plus restaurant and bar and all guest rooms have full facilities. Your stay includes 3 course dinner and breakfast.

**Price includes: coach, hotel, dinner & breakfast. Single Supp £10**

**Coach departs: Sunday 7th & 21st  
October £69**

## Llangollen Day Trip £46

A Wonderful coach trip to the market town of Llangollen with a 2 hour cruise through the Dee Valley & over the spectacular Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.



### Look what's included...

You meet our coach in the morning and we go to Llangollen. When we arrive in town we'll board the 'Thomas Telford' a modern motor cruise boat which we've hired for this special trip. A purpose-built narrowboat with comfortable seats and excellent views from every table. There also a fully stocked bar and toilets. Once you're comfortably seated we set off on a two-hour trip of peaceful cruising along the stunning Dee Valley. Your skipper will keep you well informed and entertained as he gives you a live commentary, a bit of history, local knowledge and gossip! A nice home-made lunch with tea or coffee is served on board too. The trip finishes on a high, literally! As the boat crosses the spectacular pontcysyllte aqueduct 126ft above the Dee valley floor. After the cruise, there's time to explore Llangollen itself before we head for home.

**Price includes: coach, boat trip plus lunch as shown**

**Coach departs: Wednesday 3rd October £46**

## Saundersfoot & Pembrokeshire 5 Day Coach Tour £196

Saundersfoot is a very picturesque fishing village on the Pembrokeshire coast, located at the foot of a wooded valley with sandy beaches and a harbour.

### Merlewood Hotel, Saundersfoot

Impressive sea views plus a nice garden / patio area with swimming pool, restaurant & bar. All rooms ensuite, full facilities & regular evening entertainment.

**Price includes: 4 nights D/B/B basis plus coach travel & trips out as shown. Single Supp £20**

**Also Christmas for 4 nights  
itinerary will be different**

## Cornwall 5 Day Coach Trip £206

Beautiful Hotel



### Look what's included...

**Day 1:** Arrive at hotel late afternoon., before dinner this evening.

**Day 2:** After breakfast - a trip to Truro - a small, bustling city that's easy to get around, with lots of character and interesting things to see.

**Day 3:** We take the coast road from Newquay past Watergate Bay to the fishing village of Padstow and later, Tintagel.

**Day 4:** Is left free so you can explore Newquay at your own pace.

**Day 5:** After a last, hearty breakfast we leave for home.

### Esplanade Newquay ★★★★★

Rated 3 star silver, overlooking fished beach with breathtaking sea views, indoor pool, restaurant with ocean views, 'Peebles Bar' for dramatic sunsets, all rooms have full facilities.

**Price includes: 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast plus travel & trips out**

**Coach departs: Monday 8th October £206**

## Christmas Lunch at Alvaston Hall Coach Day Trip £37

Plus a visit to one of England's biggest garden centre's christmas displays.



Meet our coach this morning as we head to Bridgemere Garden World near Nantwich. Britain's largest and most spectacular garden centre, it now covers 50 acres and is one of the largest garden centres in the world. Superb shopping in a huge undercover area After a good time at Bridgemere we go on to Warner's Alvaston Hall, a beautiful period property set in lovely grounds. We've booked one of their delicious 3-course traditional Christmas lunches. Afterwards, there's a spot of entertainment to round of your visit. Sometimes it's a tongue-in-cheek Warner's 'Panto' or the 8 golden voices of a Warner's 'Mini Choir'.

**Price includes: coach, visit to Bridgemere, christmas lunch plus panto or choir**

**Coach departs: Tuesday 14th  
December £37**

## Saundersfoot & Pembrokeshire 5 Day Coach Tour £196

Saundersfoot is a very picturesque fishing village on the Pembrokeshire coast, located at the foot of a wooded valley with sandy beaches and a harbour.

### Merlewood Hotel, Saundersfoot

Impressive sea views plus a nice garden / patio area with swimming pool, restaurant & bar. All rooms ensuite, full facilities & regular evening entertainment.

**Price includes: 4 nights D/B/B basis plus coach travel & trips out as shown. Single Supp £20**

**Also Christmas for 4 nights  
itinerary will be different**

### Look what's included...

**Day 1:** Journey through the Welsh countryside, arriving at the hotel late afternoon with time to settle-in before dinner.

**Day 2:** Full day excursion to Pembrokeshire, St. David's and Haverfordwest.

**Day 3:** Half-day trip taking in Laugharne, Pendine Sands, Amroth, Wisemans Bridge and Tenby - a lovely resort with a beautiful beaches.

**Day 4:** There's lots to see and do in Saundersfoot so today is left free so you can explore at your own pace.

**Day 5:** Breakfast then we travel home.

**Coach departs: Monday 8th October £206**

**Coach departs: Sunday 23rd December £365**

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## NEWS

# Way cleared for huge Gigaport regeneration

**BUILDINGS** on a prime town centre site earmarked for multi-million pound regeneration plans in Walsall have now been completely cleared.

Demolition work has been taking place in Hatherston Street, which has included the former 100-year-old home of engineering firm Noirit and the Fitters Arms pub.

The land is earmarked as part of the £400m Gigaport scheme to create an office and business 'corridor' in the town centre.

### Jobs

Interest has been expressed in developing the land, and it is hoped that eventually around 200 jobs will be created at Gigaport.

The project has been in the pipeline for more than five years.

A high-speed fibre optic communications system designed to attract hi-tech businesses forms part of the massive regeneration scheme.

The aim is to draw in leading firms to fit alongside Walsall College and Walsall Housing Group offices.

## Fibro' support group for the Black Country

THE Black Country Fibromyalgia Support Group holds its next meeting on Thursday, September 20, offering advice and fellowship for people with the disorder characterised by chronic pain and fatigue.

The group meets at the Nine Locks Community Centre, Hill Street, Brierley Hill, on every third Thursday of the month, from 11am to 1.30pm.

They offer help with fibromyalgia and its related symptoms and conditions, free refreshments, guest speakers and social events. Carers and partners are welcome.

The group also has a helpline on 08448 872382 available on week days from 10am till 4pm.

## Academy up for award



On the shortlist - Tracey Hesson, Claire Reynolds, Jahana Choudhury and, front, Mandy Cresswell, at The Graduate Academy in Walsall

THE hair and beauty academy at Walsall College has been shortlisted for a top award.

Facilities for budding beauticians and hairdressers are in the running.

The Graduate Academy gives students the chance to study in a real salon environment. This has been shortlisted for a prestigious Association of Colleges Beacon Award for

practical teaching and learning.

Joan Nimmo, head of the school for hair and beauty, said: "We are very pleased to have been shortlisted. It is credit to the hard work and commitment made by staff."

The college works in partnership with leading hairdressers Francescos Group and Hoar Cross Hall. It also works with Dermalogica and Wella.

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NEWS

## Lock into the past


**Engineering Locksmith Andy Middlebrook shows how one of the hand presses works with the help of his son Cogan during the open day at the Locksmith's House**

THE forgotten sights and sounds of Willenhall's Locksmith's House were brought back to life during an open day. Scores of people visited the historic building made famous by the Hodson family.

The Grade-II listed site was opened up to the public as part of the Heritage Open Days initiative. Visitors were able to see demonstrations of traditions such as making a bar padlock and rag-rugging.

**Edwardian**

There were also tours through the Edwardian building, including the draper's shop and office space. The historic museum, in New Road, closed in 2008 after Walsall Council removed a £12,000-a-year grant but was bought by the Black Country Living Museum.

Senior curator Jo Moody said: "It went really well. There were lots of people through the door, more than last year. "One couple came from Manchester but there were a lot of local people who came along, too."

## Circular saws used on cash machines in gang's raids

**A GANG of four raiders stole almost £700,000 from cash machines at supermarkets across the country by attacking them with circular saws, a court heard.**

High-powered cars, including Audis and BMWs, were stolen by the men from Walsall and Birmingham, to use during the raids and were driven at speeds of up to 150mph during police pursuits, Birmingham Crown Court heard on Monday. Co-op stores were targeted during the 14-month spree by the group, who wore masks and balaclavas.

Noel Reilly, aged 33, of Southmead Way, Birchills, and David Holmes, 31, of Perch Road, Walsall, admitted two charges of conspiring to commit commercial burglaries between September 2010 and November 2011 and burglary in October last year.

Simon Phillips, 33, of Hullbrook Road, Billesley, and Darren Buckley, 35, of Hazelville Road, Acocks Green, admitted conspiring to commit commercial and house burglaries between September 2010 and October 2011.

Mr Nicholas Cartwright, prosecuting, said there were 33 attacks on cashpoints, with £684,210 stolen and only £83,000 recovered.

Co-op stores in the Park Hall area of Walsall, Solihull and Northfield and Quinton in Birmingham, were targeted in the Midlands. A total of £84,000 was taken during a single raid on a cash machine in Suffolk.

**Targeted**

Mr Cartwright said homes were targeted on six occasions for car keys, laptops and tablet computers, with one Audi being taken from an address in Longford Road, Cannock in July, 2011.

He said some properties were targeted because the cars had been advertised in Auto Trader.

Ms Sophie Murray, defending Buckley, said he acted as a lookout and was not involved in all the burglaries.

Ms Lynette McClement, representing Phillips, said he was a father-of-five who had debt problems and succumbed to temptation.

The hearing was adjourned for sentence on Monday.

A proceeds of crime hearing is expected to take place next year.

## Wasteland fire emptied a bar

**A BAR in Walsall Wood had to be evacuated because of smoke from a nearby fire.**

Crews were called after rubbish was set alight on wasteland near to the Q Bar on Saturday night.

The smoke went through air vents into the bar on Walsall Road forcing firefighters to evacuate the premises.

The fire, which happened at 9pm, was tackled and customers were able to return within 45 minutes.

## Fete at Delves care complex

**A FETE will be held at an extra care housing complex in Walsall on Saturday.**

Deighton Court, in Brockhurst Crescent, Delves, will host the event from noon to 5pm.

Eight stalls will be on offer including cakes and bric-a-brac.



## NEWS

## Art tribute to Ellie



Artist Cameron Galt puts finishing touches to his large portrait of Paralympic swimming star Ellie Simmonds

THE ARTIST behind a 7ft tribute to Walsall swimming star Ellie Simmonds said he was inspired by her success and the Paralympic Games being in London.

Father-of-two Cameron Galt created a watercolour painting of the teenager which was then put on to the canvas to make a larger portrait.

## Olympic

It came about as his relatives are friends with the Simmonds family and he wanted to create an Olympic-themed piece as a member of the Royal Watercolour Society.

Mr Galt, of Birchills, said: "My first thought was of Ellie as she is a Paralympic star across the board from Beijing."

"Although her schedule is pretty tight and she is at Swansea most of the week it was done on a Saturday afternoon at her home in Aldridge."

## Policeman returns as new chief

A NEW chief superintendent has been appointed for Walsall.

Chief Superintendent David Sturman replaces Kevin Bullas, who is retiring after more than 30 years.

Mr Sturman will be responsible for local policing in Walsall. Originally from Stourbridge, he has 25 years of police experience.

He spent three years as superintendent for Walsall before moving back to police headquarters in 2010.

"I am absolutely delighted to be returning to the borough and look forward to the opportunity to lead our officers and staff in serving the public of Walsall," he said. "I will bring experience, passion and enthusiasm into the role."

"Crime in the borough is currently down compared to levels last year and I intend to continue this hard work and drive down crime levels down even further."

"Working together with the local community we will continue to make Walsall a safe place to live, work and visit."

Mr Sturman started his career with West Midlands Police in 1992 in Wolverhampton and has worked in Birmingham. This included five years in force operations where he was responsible for the force firearms, public order, dogs and other specialist uniform units.

## Indoor boot sale for club

AN INDOOR car boot sale will be held to raise money for Walsall FC Supporter's Club on Saturday, September 15, from 10am.

Vendors should arrive at the Bescot Crescent ground to set up at 9am.

Pitches can be booked on 01922 621179 or 649840.

Tables cost £7.50 or £5 and entry costs 30p.

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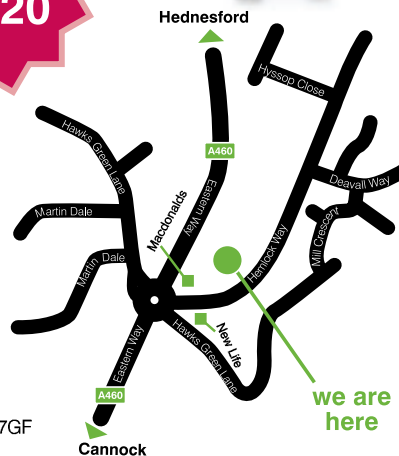
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Saturday 08 September 09.00 - 13.00	•	•	•	09.30 - 13.00		09.30 - 13.00
Monday 10 September 12.00 - 19.00	•	•	•	10.00 - 16.00		
Tuesday 11 September 12.00 - 19.00	•	•	•	10.00 - 16.00		10.00 - 18.00
Wednesday 12 September 12.00 - 19.00	•	•	•	10.00 - 16.00		
Thursday 13 September 12.00 - 19.00	•	•	•	10.00 - 16.00	10.00 - 18.00	10.00 - 18.00
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**NEWS**

# Family jewellery firm in £1m expansion scheme

A FAMILY jewellers, which has been based in the Midlands for over a century, has revealed a £1 million expansion plan to increase its number of stores.

T H Baker, which was established in 1888, will open three new shops, adding to its growing network of jewellery outlets based across the country. The company has branches in Stourbridge, The Merry Hill shopping centre, Walsall, Halesowen and Kidderminster and has also been growing its Pandora range, which has an outlet in Birmingham's Bullring.

T H Baker's latest store, in Stratford-upon-Avon, takes the firm's network of stores to 19, staffed by 230 employees in total.

The business was founded on October 6, 1888 by watchmaker and jeweller Thomas Henry Baker who opened the company's first store, in Brierley Hill, which is still going today.

**Heritage**

Chief executive, Andrew Higgs, said everyone was pleased to have secured the finance to enable the business to expand.

"We are very proud of our heritage and our success is testimony to the values set out by our great-great grandfather when he first established the business which was around offering great service and value," he said.

"We have continued to evolve the business with the introduction of the Pandora concept stores and some of our online ventures such as the Jewel Hut."

Thomas Henry Baker's daughter Phillis and her husband, Frank Higgs, bought the business in 1915 - steering it through the financial difficulties of the First World War.

Two further branches were opened in Walsall and Wolverhampton between 1945 and 1952. Recent additions are Burton-on-Trent and Telford.

Alan Higgs, great grandson of Thomas Henry Baker, joined was appointed managing director in 1987.

## Faye's new role at college



**Ex-student Faye Swinnerton is back at college as a security guard**

FORMER Walsall College student Faye Swinnerton has returned to as its only female security officer.

The 19-year-old, of Willenhall, has been appointed by Corps Security as a permanent security officer at the college's Wisemore Campus.

Faye, whose dream is to become a police officer, studied level two public services at the college before enrolling on an English course.

She will be responsible for making sure students, staff and the college site are safe.

"I couldn't believe it when I got the news that I would be stationed at Walsall College, I was thrilled," she said.

"I know exactly what it's like to be a student at the college and I have some great memories from my time here."

"I also hope I will be a positive role model to female students currently studying public services and show that women can succeed in a male-dominated industry."

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## MEMORY LANE



Old Edial Hall is gone but the adjoining farm and servants' house remain



Glasscroft, now Jones Lane, is decorated for the coronation of George VI



Burntwood Hall at Rakes Hill in a picture believed to date back to the 1950s

# Recalling man who bought his wife at Walsall market

**AS WE** get older the areas we live in change with us and it is only when we see old photos like these featured here, that we recall what it was like in our youth.

by Ron Bradbury

an accidental demise, such as the Chase Terrace High School on Bridge Cross Road, Chase Terrace. Burned beyond repair in August 2002, a fine new building replaces it, which ironically, is much more suited to modern schooling techniques.

Last month was the 10th anniversary of the fire.

Also long gone is the row of houses up the part of Rugeley Road, Burntwood known as Nags Hill. These houses long rejoiced in the name Tub and Bucket Row, because rainwater was collected from the drainpipes to use for domestic purposes, with drinking water coming from a well. It was a form of recycling.

Many of the families who lived there had been there for generations, one of them going down into folklore as the man who bought his wife at Walsall

market for 2/6d, 12 and a half pence in today's money. In reality he was not legally married, but had come to an arrangement with a farmer round the corner who wanted shut of his wife because of her infidelity. Selling one's wife in a public market place was like getting a divorce in those days, though wasn't recognised as so in law. One building still standing is Edial Hall.

### Slideshow

The Edial Hall of Samuel Johnson fame has long gone, but the adjoining servants' and farm building survived and is now a fine house in its own right.

All these photos and many more were featured in the Chase Heritage Group's monthly slideshow/film night this month.

Similar shows are held on the first Tuesday of the month. Details are available on [www.burntwoodchaseheritage.weebly.com](http://www.burntwoodchaseheritage.weebly.com)



Homes in Rugeley Road known as Tub and Bucket Row



The old Christ Church vicarage at Burntwood



How Chase Terrace High School used to look



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## NEWS

# Council finance chief wants to protect benefit claimants

## It's a dolly good show



Jennifer Roberts, of Walsall, with a dolls house at the collectors' fair. HUNDREDS of dolls house collectors descended on the County Showground in Stafford for a fair. More than 800 visitors went to the Staffordshire Dolls House and Miniature Collectors event on Sunday to see over 90 exhibitors.

Jennifer Roberts, who runs Jennifer's of Walsall which specialises in Dolls Houses and Miniatures, said: "It is something the whole family can do."

A COUNCIL boss in Walsall says it is right to protect council tax benefit claimants in the face of a £3.3 million cut in Government funding.

Councils currently get a subsidy for delivering the benefit. They carry out the work for the Department of Work and Pensions.

But this funding is due to be cut by around 10 per cent, leaving Walsall facing a £3.3 million shortfall.

Cabinet members were expected to agree that the costs should be covered from other savings and income streams when they met yesterday (Wednesday).

This means the cut will not be passed on to residents and they will not have to find an extra £4.31 per week.

### Vulnerable

Finance boss Chris Towe said: "In Walsall around 35,000 households receive council tax benefit; if we passed on the reduction in subsidy to almost 19,000 current working aged council tax benefit customers this would see them having to find around an extra £4.31 per week."

"We appreciate that any changes in the way benefits are administered are extremely worrying for those who will be affected and we must try to protect our most vulnerable residents including disabled people and families with children, from loss in entitlement."

He added: "That's why I believe it is right for us to protect claimants from any changes for the first year while an alternative system is put in place."

"This is in line with what some of our neighbouring local councils are proposing to do."

## Five injured in crash

FIVE people were injured when two cars were involved in a crash on a country lane near Aldridge last week. The accident happened on September 5 at around 11.30pm at Crook Lane, near Barr Beacon. Two people had to be cut free from a vehicle.

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## FOCUS ON PELSALL

### Knockout idea for charities

RESIDENTS of Pelsall and the surrounding area are needed to help revive the classic game show 'It's A Knockout' by members of Walsall council.

The inaugural event due to be held on Pelsall Common on Saturday, October 27 is aimed at becoming an annual event to raise money for a number of local charities.

People from the area are being asked to help breathe life into the project by giving their own suggestions on what games and activities should be run as part of the event.

#### Unique

Chairman of Brownhills, Pelsall, Shelfield and Rushall Area Partnership, Councillor Gary Perry, said: "We hope to create a unique community event which brings everyone together."

Anyone with ideas for games and activities to be held on the day are urged to contact Area Partnership Manager Ranjit Kaur by emailing [kaurranjit@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:kaurranjit@walsall.gov.uk)

### Hog roast to help hospice

A CHARITY fun day is being held at a pub in Pelsall on Saturday featuring live bands, a hog roast and face painting. It is at The Railway Inn, Victoria Road, from 11am in aid of St Giles Walsall Hospice.

# Village's new centre will be 'a great asset' – councillor

**COUNCILLORS** were impressed when the visited Pelsall's new combined library, health and children's centre to see how work is progressing.

The £4.5 million building is being built to replace outdated buildings that had existed on the same site.

With construction due to be finished towards the end of September ward councillors Marco Longhi and Oliver Don Bennett went along to see how the work was coming along.

Councillor Marco Longhi, said: "It is fair to say that we were more than impressed."

"To visualise how it will be used in the near future increased expectations even further. This is going to be a truly great asset for Pelsall."

The councillors praised the speed and quality of the work carried out by the contractor ISG and thanked them.

#### Report by Tom Mason

However they recognised the disruption it may have caused for some local residents.

Cllr Longhi said: "A project of this magnitude will always mean that a few people might not be as pleased."

"Everyone has worked really hard to minimise any negative impact and my thanks go to ISG in particular for being so responsive and considerate."

Two GPs will be the first to move in.

The contractors will soon be sending out letters to local residents inviting them for a coffee, chat and tour of the new facilities.



Promoter Mark Cooksey, The Arkhamists drummer Baden Fitzmaurice and The Lock in lead singer Chris Ward promote the concert to raise money for Pelsall Villa Colts

### Triple bill of bands for Colts

A NIGHT of music will help to raise vital cash for an under 16 football team.

Youngsters at Pelsall Villa Colts will use any money raised to buy kit and pay travel costs to away games.

Three bands – the Lock In, Arkhamists, and Hit Squad – will all play at the Pelsall Sports and Social Club tomorrow (Friday) at 8pm to raise funds.

Becky Menear, whose 15-year-old son Stephen plays in the team, has helped to organise the event. She said: "It's good to be sporty and active. Raising money will help go to away matches and pay for the kits next season."

"The team play in the Walsall League. This event will hopefully raise a lot of money for the club. We hope to raise a few hundred pounds. It's going to be fun."

Tickets cost £3 and there will be a raffle and games. Call Becky Menear on 07557 334654.

### Olivia is a future engineer

A TEENAGED girl from Pelsall has won the RAF's silver Crest award for her expertise in engineering at a week-long event held at RAF Cosford.

Olivia Wang, 15, was chosen from applicants from across the UK to take part in the course that taught aeronautical design as part of the Women in Science and Engineering Initiative.

She and 23 other girls learned engineering skills including how to replace the flap from the wing of a jet aircraft and erect a military radio communications mast.

#### Aspire

Now considering a career in engineering, she said: "It was a tiring but enjoyable week and at times very difficult."

Squadron Leader Glynn Dean said: "We've got to get on the girls' radar while they are young so they can aspire to a technical career in non-traditional areas."

The programme runs annually.

### Food foraging on the common

YOUNGSTERS can take part in a foraging expedition around Pelsall North Common on October 6.

It takes place from 10am and costs £2.50. Call 01922 459813.

### Back to the '80s

EXPECT to hear Wham!, The Human League and Duran Duran when a 1980s themed evening is hosted by Pelsall Pride Partnership at Brownhills Memorial House in Lichfield tomorrow (Friday). There is music from 80s tribute band Electric Dreams and the Helen Andrews Disco.

Doors open at 7.30pm and tickets are available for £5, guests are asked to bring their own drinks and fancy dress is optional. For tickets contact Sue Hill on 07714761852.



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We urge all of our Community to come and support the Football Club, we are continually looking for sponsorship, we also continue to look to the local community to join our Management Committee.

We would like to thank the individuals and companies that continue to support Pelsall Villa FC.

If you would like to contact us at the club, please call

**Shaun 07779 111023 or Mark 07595 457353**

or email [pelsallvillafc@aol.com](mailto:pelsallvillafc@aol.com)

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## REVIEWS

# Murder, Italian style

Stick to the  
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DVDs

Inspector Montalbano:  
Collection Two (15)

A SUNNY alternative to all those cold and dark Scandinavian crime thrillers, this Italian series was originally shown on BBC Four (the latest series is on now) and features Luca Zingaretti as the laid-back Sicilian detective. He does his best to solve murder mysteries whilst deflecting political manoeuvring from above and malign Mafia influences from below. The collection includes six episodes on three discs and is subtitled, which would probably be a good thing even if you can speak Italian as all the characters seem to talk as if on fast-forward.

Borgia (15)

Not to be confused with The Borgias epic currently being shown by Sky, this is an equally glossy but less soapy telling of the rise to power of one family in Renaissance Italy.

Subtitled Faith And Fear, this European production lacks big names but looks very good and rips through the family story with lots of (restrained) violence and depravity as the Borgias murder their way to the top, which in the 15th century meant the title of Pope.

The four DVD boxset features all 13 episodes of Oliver Hirschbiegel's mini-series.

Leon Burakowski



Luca Zingaretti as smooth Italian  
detective Inspector Montalbano

Game

Damage Inc. Pacific  
Squadron WWII (12,  
£39.99, X360, PS3, PC)

THIS aerial combat game puts the gamer in the cockpit of 32 1940s warplanes as you take revenge on the Imperial Japanese airforce for the attack on US forces in Pearl Harbour.

Get the version with the Pacific AV8R Flightstick, a sturdy piece of kit which plugs into a USB port, and the game comes to life. Then you can perform dives and barrel rolls with ease.

The game offers arcade and flight sim modes, more than 20 missions and the chance to take part in online dogfights.

The handling is good but the game is let down by poor scenery graphics at low altitude and robotic voice acting.

LB

# Woman takes to her bed for a year

The Woman Who Went To Bed  
For A Year - Sue Townsend  
(Penguin, paperback, £7.99)

THE creator of Adrian Mole presents us with another memorable character in Eva Beaver.

This 50-year-old wife and mother, after despatching her teenaged twins to university, chucks tomato soup all over the chair she has spent two years embroidering and takes to her bed... for a year.

It soon turns out that this is more than a mere midlife crisis or even a nervous breakdown, as Eva's determination to stay on the sheets confounds her family and turns her into a celebrity.

Eva's dramatic way of reappraising her life allows Townsend to wittily point out the absurdities in modern suburban life.

This is a novel to provoke many wry smiles rather than belly laughs.

Books  
Four Children and It -  
Jacqueline Wilson  
(Puffin, hardback, £12.99)

The UK's top children's author gives a modern twist to the classic Five Children and It by E. Nesbit. The Edwardian tale is brought up to date with a squabbling modern family from the creator of Tracy Beaker. But they meet their match in the mysterious wish-granting Fsammead. Wilson respects her source and probably hopes that introducing it to today's young readers will encourage them to read the original and maybe more of Edith Nesbit's work, such as The Railway Children.

The Dog Stars - Peter Heller  
(Headline, hardback, £14.99)

Set in a near future America ravaged by killer flu and climate change, this first novel by adventurer Peter Heller is more a meditation on loss and loneliness than a killed-or-be-killed post-

apocalypse thriller. It has similarities with Cormac McCarthy's bleak The Road, including irritating anti-grammatical devices (lack of speech marks).

But the story of pilot Hig has hope and the character has battered decency. When the action does come, it is all the more gripping because we like Hig and his dog but not his trigger-happy partner.

The Weekend Cookbook -  
Catherine Hill  
(Penguin, hardback, £18.99)

The whole weekend is sorted by food writer Catherine Hill, from something easy for Friday night, via breakfasts that will want to make you leap out of bed, to fancy Saturday night dinners and hearty Sunday lunches. Nicely illustrated by Tim Winter's photographs, Hill's cookbook aims for maximum results for minimum effort and her recipes look very tasty indeed.

Leon Burakowski

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- Entrance to Chatsworth House and gardens

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## York St Nicholas fayre

Two-day break departing December 1

FROM £89.95\*

- Overnight half-board accommodation

- Visits to York St Nicholas Fayre and Haworth

Arranged by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## Bath Christmas market

Two-day break departing December 1

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- Visit to Bath Christmas market

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## Lincoln Christmas market

Two-day break departing December 8

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- Visit to Lincoln Christmas market

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## Grassington Dickensian festival and Manchester's Christmas markets

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- Visit to the Grassington Dickensian festival

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\*single room supplements apply





# What's On! Walsall

## Cabaret star Joe in Bloxwich show

TICKETS are available for entertainer Joe Longthorne who is returning for a show in Bloxwich.

The singer will be joined by comic Billy Pearce for the show at Bloxwich Memorial Club in Harrison Street on Friday, October 26, from 7pm.

Cabaret star Longthorne got his first break on TV's Junior Showtime before working the northern clubs and finding TV fame on Search For A Star in 1981. He has appeared at the London Palladium several times. Tickets are £25 from the club or by calling Gary on 07745 397345.

## TV Mark is to host return of the Pops

IT disappeared from our TV screens six years ago. But now the iconic Top of the Pops is back in the shape of a new musical coming to Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre.

Top Of The Pops Live will celebrate three decades of the much-loved show's hits. It will be hosted by TV presenters Sam Nixon and Darlaston-born Mark Rhodes. Top of the Pops Live will screen vintage footage from the show as part of a chart rundown. It runs from March 4 to 9.

## Organist's recital

AN ORGAN recital is taking place at Walsall Town Hall next week.

Borough organist Peter Morris will be performing at the venue on September 20 from 1pm. Tickets are £2 on the door.

# It's rock 'n' droll to a D as comedy duo continue quest

RIFFS and laughs will rock a sold out Wolverhampton Civic Hall next month when Hollywood movie star and comedy hero Jack Black is reunited with his comic buddy Kyle Gass for the return of their rock 'n' roll band Tenacious D.

The D are back on the road with the release of their first studio album in more than six years, Rize of the Fenix, after a storming performance at the Download Festival in June.

## Killers gigs for the LG

LAS Vegas rock superstars The Killers have announced two gigs at Birmingham's LG Arena on October 31 and November 1.

Fronted by singer Brandon Flowers, the band are next week releasing their fourth studio album, Battle Born, and have just released a new single, Runaways.

The Killers have sold more than five million copies in the UK of their albums Hot Fuss, Sam's Town and Day & Age. The latter provided the band with their biggest hit single, Human, in 2008.

Tickets range from £32.50 to £42.50 plus fees.

Combining musicianship with a sharp eye for lampooning the excesses of the metal scene, the duo brought their band to the screen in the movie Tenacious D and the Pick of Destiny. It was no box office hit but has picked up a cult following on DVD.

Asked what they've been up to, Jack Black said: "Well, we've been working on our meditation, a lot of meditation. There's been a lot of time spent in the Himalayas. There's been a lot of nose to the grindstone. That's right, I've been nose to the ground stoned!"

And what did he like best about living in the UK. "To go out for a curry... read some Sherlock Holmes... tandem biking through parks."

The band, named after an aggressive basketball move, will be in concert at the Civic on Sunday, October 21.



Tenacious D describe their album as "Journey similar to that of Gandalf in The Lord of the Rings". Kyle Gass and Jack Black (above) continue their quest on tour

## Autumn leaves region laughing at comic talent

IT'S going to be a funny autumn with top comedians lining up to play local venues. The latest big name is American star Chris Tucker, at Birmingham Symphony Hall (November 26).

Michael McIntyre hops around the NIA tomorrow (Friday), Saturday and then next week too.

Sandi Toksvig brings wit to Birmingham Town Hall on October 2. The same venue hosts Mark Watson (Oct 3) and Danny Bhoy (Oct 4). America's queen of mean Joan Rivers is at the Symphony Hall (Oct 16).

The New Alexandra Theatre hosts Jason Byrne on Saturday and coming up is Alan Davies, Roy Chubby Brown, Al Murray, Charlie Murphy, Ross Noble, Julian Clary, Paul Chowdhry, Lee Nelson, and Jethro.

At Wolverhampton venues the line-up includes Cannon and Ball, Sarah Millican, Freddie Starr, Al Murray, Danny Bhoy, Andi Osho, The Boy With Tape On His Face, Lee Hurst, Paul Chowdhry, and Alexei Sayle.

Dara O'Brian deals craic at the Civic Hall (Oct 31).

## Talented Jean has a concert at Forest

HER snazzy sequinned jackets and fun-loving personality made her one of the most popular stars of Britain's Got Talent, and fans can catch Jean Martin's musical show in Walsall next week.

The Staffordshire musician, who plays keyboards, is coming to Forest Arts centre tonight (Thursday).

Retired music teacher Jean was a hit with TV viewers, making it to the Britain's Got Talent finals.

Tickets for the 1.30pm show cost £5 and are available from the Forest Arts Centre on 0845 111 2898.

## The Lion King is coming to Brum

A TOURING version of Disney's West End musical hit The Lion King will be one of the biggest draws in the new season at Birmingham Hippodrome.

The theatre, which is currently having its 30-year-old stage replaced in a £1 million project, will host The Lion King for three months next summer, from June 13.

The theatre's other major blockbuster will be Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom of the Opera from March 13 to May 4.

## Open mic night

YOUNGSTERS are invited to an open mic night at Bookmark Bloxwich on Friday, September 21. Doors at the Elmore Row venue open at 7pm and the show starts at 7.30pm.

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Guest Singers, under the direction of Andy Reiss, from international singing group, Beyond the Barricade and the renowned Ovation will perform to ensure an evening's entertainment to remember.



Ballet Theatre UK

Ann Breen

At The Prince of Wales Theatre

## OCTOBER

### Ann Breen

Sunday 7th • 7.30pm • £15.00

### A Christmas Carol

Ballet Theatre UK

Friday 19th • 7.30pm

£16.00, £15 seniors, £10.00 juniors

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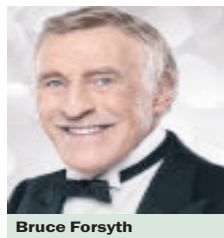
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## What's On!

## SATURDAY'S TV 15.09.12

## CHOICE



Bruce Forsyth

**Strictly Come Dancing – The 2012 Premiere BBC1, 6.30pm**  
Maybe it's because wearing sparkly outfits and learning to fox-trot sounds a bit more appealing than eating bugs in the Australian jungle or spending two weeks cooped up in a house with cameras watching you 24 hours a day, but Strictly Come Dancing usually manages to attract a better class of celebrity than most reality shows. So, you should recognise at least half of the famous faces being introduced by Bruce Forsyth and Tess Daly at this red-carpet event to launch the new series. We will finally find out who's taking part tonight!

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food. (R) 12.00 BBC News. Regional News. Weather. 12.15 Football Focus. 1.00 Live Athletics. 2.30 Live Golf: The Women's British Open. 4.30 Final Score. 5.10 BBC News. Regional News. Weather. 5.30 All New Total Wipeout. Twenty memorable contestants face the course again.**  
**6.30 Strictly Come Dancing – The 2012 Premiere.** Bruce Forsyth and Tess Daly host a red-carpet event following this year's celebrities as they meet their professional partners, and introducing new judge Darcey Bussell.  
**7.35 Doctor Who.** The Time Lord and the Ponds arrive in a Wild West town being terrorised by a cyborg gunslinger which has an alien doctor on its hit list.  
**8.20 The National Lottery: Secret Fortune.** High-tension quiz show, presented by Nick Knowles. Best friends Kay and Karen attempt to win the top prize of £100,000.  
**9.10 Casually.** Dylan and Tess treat an agitated pregnant woman, while Fletch tries to unravel the relationship between a teenage girl and her swimming coach.  
**10.00 BBC News. Weather. 10.20 Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of today's Premier League clashes, including Stoke City v Manchester City at the Britannia Stadium and Queens Park Rangers v Chelsea at Loftus Road. National Lottery Update.  
**11.50 The Football League Show. 1.05 Weather. 1.10 BBC News.**

## BBC2

**6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 12.00 Film: The Treasure of Pancho Villa. (1955) 1.30 Film: She Wore a Yellow Ribbon. (1949) 3.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.45 Flog It! (R) 4.30 Live Golf: The Women's British Open. 5.00 One Man and His Dog – LIVE!  
**6.15 Coast. (R) 6.35 Wartime Farm.** Ruth Goodman, Alex Langlands and Peter Ginn experience conditions faced by British farmers in 1940, as rationing took hold and Nazi bombing raids intensified. (R)  
**7.35 Dad's Army.** Mainwaring and the squad stumble across the crew of a downed German aircraft. Comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. (R)  
**8.10 Vikings.** Neil Oliver explores the history of the Norse warriors, beginning by examining their ancient ancestry and charting Scandinavia's prehistoric landscape. (R)  
**9.10 QI XL.** An extended edition of the quiz, as Stephen Fry asks Victoria Coren, Bill Bailey, Jimmy Carr and Alan Davies questions about words beginning with J.  
**9.55 The Thick of It.** Former Cabinet minister Nicola Murray finds herself facing a new set of pressures in opposition, and begins to worry about whether she can rely on her party colleagues.  
**10.25 Clinton.** New series. The story of the former American president.  
**11.25 Film: The Special Relationship.** (2010) Fact-based political drama, starring Michael Sheen.  
**12.50 Film: A Study in Terror.** Thriller, with John Neville. (1965).**

## ITV1

**6.00 CITV: CITV. 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. 11.20 Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) 12.20 The X Factor. (R) 1.25 ITV News: Weather. 1.40 Film: Nim's Island. (2008) 3.25 Film: Licence to Kill. (1989) 5.55 Regional Programme: Weather.  
**6.10 ITV News: Weather. 6.25 New You've Been Framed! 6.55 Fool Britannia.** Hidden-camera pranks, with Dom Joly.  
**7.25 Red or Black?** Eight more contestants compete to win a huge cash prize by guessing the outcome of stunts and challenges, including a darting duel between Phil Taylor and Adrian Lewis. Continues after The X Factor.  
**8.10 The X Factor.** Gary Barlow, Nicole Scherzinger, Tulisa and Louis Walsh continue their search for the next big thing in music. Dermot O'Leary hosts.  
**9.10 Red or Black?** Canadian singer Nelly Furtado performs as the four remaining contestants face further challenges – but only one will be given a chance to take home the huge cash prize.  
**9.55 The Jonathan Ross Show.** The host chats to Canadian pop sensation Justin Bieber, TV sport presenter Clare Balding and film star Liam Neeson, and the Killers perform their new single.  
**10.55 ITV News: Weather. 11.10 Film: Disclosure.** (1994) Thriller, starring Michael Douglas and Demi Moore.  
**1.30 The Store.** ITV News Headlines. 3.00 In Plain Sight. (R) 3.15 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.**

## CHANNEL 4

**6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 British F3 International Series. 7.00 The Grid. 7.25 Freerolls on 4. 7.55 The Morning Line. 8.55 T4: Bourjois Boutique. 9.00 T4: iTunes Festival 2012: T4 Highlights. 9.30 T4: New Girl. 10.00 T4: Bourjois Boutique. 10.10 T4: New Girl. 10.40 T4: Revenge. 11.40 T4: Bourjois Boutique. 11.45 T4: Suburgatory. 12.20 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.55 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 1.25 T4: The Simpsons. (R) 2.00 Channel 4 Racing. 4.30 The Simpsons. (R) 5.05 Channel 4 News. 5.35 4thought tv. 5.40 Film: Transformers. (2007) Sci-fi action adventure, starring Shia LaBeouf.  
**8.20 Comedy World Cup.** New series. David Tennant asks the questions as two teams of comedians compete to showcase their knowledge of comedy.  
**9.20 The Million Pound Drop Live.** Davina McCall presents the quiz show in which contestants can win £1 million. They are challenged to place large quantities of the cash over trapdoors and face a series of questions, the wrong answers to which will lose them money every time they slip up.  
**10.55 Film: Hostage.** (2005) A former hostage negotiator draws on his old skills to save children held captive in their own home by a gang of crazed delinquents. Thriller, with Bruce Willis and Kevin Pollak.  
**1.10 Film: The Clay Bird.** (2002) Drama, starring Nurul Islam Bablu. 2.55 The Bypass. (R) 3.10 Holyoaks. (R) 5.15 Brain Damage. (R) 5.20 Countdown. (R)**

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Power Rangers Samurai. 10.35 Batman: The Brave and the Bold. 11.10 Emergency Bikers. (R) 12.10 Cowboy Builders. (R) 1.10 Film: Mystery Woman. (2003) Whodunit, starring Kellie Martin. 2.50 David Copperfield. (R) 6.20 5 News Weekend. 6.25 Film: Wyatt Earp. (1994) The life of the legendary lawman, from his early youth to his days as the feared and respected town marshal who engineered the gunfight at the OK Corral, a tragic confrontation with a notorious outlaw gang. Western, starring Kevin Costner.  
**10.00 CSI: Miami.** Three men are released from prison after being cleared of a 1992 murder – but one of them is found dead shortly afterwards, and the clues suggest a link to the original crime.  
**10.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.** The discovery of a body in a chimney leads Catherine and Warrick to reopen inquiries into the disappearance of a teenage girl. (R)  
**11.55 Inside Hollywood.** Magazine show, with location reports, news and views from behind the scenes. (R)  
**12.00 SuperCasino.** Live interactive gaming. 4.00 HouseBusters. Life-enhancing changes to a home. (R) 4.25 Divine Designs. Churches designed by Christopher Wren. Last in the series. (R) 4.50 County Secrets. (R) 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. Shake makes lunch for everyone. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. Big Chris appears on TV. (R)**

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 8.00 Top Gear 9.00 Live at the Apollo 10.00 Greg Davies: Firing Cheeseballs at a Dog 11.00 Family Guy 11.45 American Dad! BBC Four**  
**7.00 Human Planet 8.00 Mission to Mars: A Horizon Special 9.00 Inspector Montalbano 10.40 The InterCity 125: The Age of the Train 11.40 The Three Rocketeers**  
**ITV2**  
**3.05 The X Factor 4.05 The Xtra Factor 5.10 Film: Cool Runnings (1993) 7.05 Film: Dragonheart (1996) 9.10 The X Factor 10.10 Celebrity Juice 10.55 Film: Happy Gilmore (1996)**  
**ITV3**  
**2.55 Agatha Christie's Poirot 5.00 Downton Abbey 7.00 Foyle's War 9.00 Midsomer Murders 11.00 Crime Connections**  
**ITV4**  
**3.15 British Superbike Championship Highlights 4.15 Film: Support Your Local Gunfighter (1971) 6.15 World's Wildest Police Videos 7.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain 8.00 River Monsters 9.00 Film: The Game (1997) 11.35 Film: The Exorcist (1973)**  
**E4**  
**3.50 Film: Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992) 6.15 The Big Bang Theory 7.10 How I Met Your Mother 8.10 Rules of Engagement 9.10 Film: Wedding Crashers (2005) 11.30 The Inbetweeners**  
**Film4**  
**2.50 Coraline (2009) 4.55 Roman Holiday (1953) 7.15 Laws of Attraction (2004) Romantic comedy, with Pierce Brosnan and Julianne Moore. 9.00 Patriot Games (1992) Political thriller, starring Harrison Ford. 11.15 Scary Movie (2000)**

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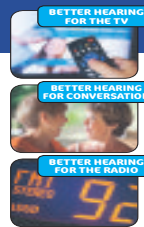
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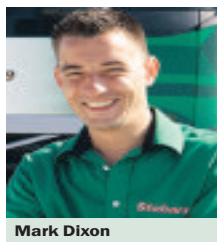


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## SUNDAY'S TV 16.09.12

## CHOICE



**Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers**  
Channel 5, 11.25am  
Channel 5 loves a good trucking programme – a quick glance through the schedules will show you that. The adventures of a bunch of highly paid, death-defying Canadians and Americans driving their cargo to and from some of the most inhospitable places on Earth in Ice Road Truckers has been little short of jaw-dropping. This home-grown offering is a lot less do-or-die, but it still makes for good viewing. In this episode, a trucking convoy journeys through the Alps on a 1200-mile trip to deliver tyres to a Formula One test race in Italy.

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** 8.30 The Andrew Marr Show. 9.30 Live Athletics. 1.30 BBC News: Weather. 1.45 Bargain Hunt. (R) 2.30 Cash in the Attic. (R) 3.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.00 Lifestyle. 4.10 Points of View. 4.25 Songs of Praise. 5.00 Planet Earth Live: A Lion's Tale.  
**6.00 BBC News:** Regional News: Weather.  
**6.30 Fake or Fortune?** New series. Fiona Bruce and expert Philip Mould investigate art with mysterious origins, beginning by helping a man who believes he owns a painting by French artist Edgar Degas.  
**7.30 Countryfile.** Matt Baker explores the beauty of the Nottinghamshire countryside, as captured through the writing of DH Lawrence, and Adam Henson goes shepherding in the Swiss Alps. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.  
**8.30 Inspector George Gently.** The detective is accused of fabricating evidence against an old adversary and a former colleague from London arrives to offer his support. With Kevin Whately. Last in the series.  
**10.00 BBC News:** Regional News: Weather.  
**10.25 Match of the Day 2.**  
**11.15 In with the Flynns.** Liam goes snooping round a neighbour's home. (R)  
**11.45 Film: Two for the Money.** (2005) Gambling drama, with Al Pacino.  
**1.40 Weatherview.** 1.45 Sign Zone: Snowdonia – A Year in the Wild. (R) 2.45 Holly City. (R) 3.45 Good Cop. (R) 4.45 BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.00 CBeebies.** 7.00 CBBC. 7.30 Match of the Day. (R) 9.00 CBBC. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.30 The Great British Bake Off. (R) 12.30 Live MotoGP. 2.00 Live Golf: The Women's British Open. 5.00 One Man and His Dog – LIVE!  
**6.15 Rugby League.**  
**7.15 Richard Hammond's Crash Course.** The host visits Dallas-Fort Worth Airport in Texas for an encounter with the Striker – the world's most powerful fire engine – and experiences the training its crew must undergo.  
**8.00 China on Four Wheels.** Anita Rani and Justin Rowlett explore the contrasting faces of modern China on the concluding leg of their journey to Shanghai, including potholed roads and a wine chateau.  
**9.00 Dragons' Den.** A Welsh grandmother charms the Dragons as she tries to secure investment for her food website, while the usual rules of the Den are disregarded during a pitch for a haircare brand.  
**10.00 Mock the Week.** Radio 4 favourite Milton Jones and Irish comedian Ed Byrne join Dara O Briain, Hugh Dennis, Andy Parsons and Chris Addison for another round of the satirical news quiz. (R)  
**10.30 Hilary Devey's Women at the Top.** Conclusion. The entrepreneur explores ways to help women prosper in the workplace, and assesses the effectiveness of policies instituted by some of Britain's biggest companies. (R)  
**11.30 Athletics.**  
**12.10 BBC News.** 4.05 Close.

## ITV1

**6.00 CITV:** CITV. 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 House Gift. (R) 10.25 There's No Taste Like Home. (R) 11.25 The Hungry Sailors. (R) 12.20 ITV News: Weather. 12.30 The X Factor. (R) 1.35 Murder. She Wrote. (R) 2.30 Film: Columbus: A Bird in the Hand. (1992) 4.25 Doc Martin. (R) 5.25 The Talent Show Story. (R) 6.25 Regional Programme: Weather.  
**6.45 ITV News:** Weather.  
**7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special.** Dan Lobb, Jodie Prenger, Chris Packham and Jennie McAlpine try to win thousands of pounds for charity by outwitting one of the show's resident trivia experts.  
**8.00 The X Factor.** Judges Gary Barlow, Nicole Scherzinger, Tulisa and Louis Walsh continue their search for a new singing sensation by putting more hopefuls through their paces.  
**9.00 Downton Abbey.** New series. Cora's mother Martha (Shirley Maclaine) arrives at Downton for Matthew and Mary's wedding – but the couple are struggling to stay united ahead of their big day.  
**10.30 ITV News:** Weather.  
**10.45 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Roger Moore.** The actor recalls the highs and lows of his acting career and personal life, lifts the lid on his four marriages and tells the story of his upbringing in south London. (R)  
**11.50 Premiership Rugby Union.**  
**12.45 The Store.** ITV News Headlines. 2.45 British Superbike Championship Highlights. 3.40 Motorsport UK. 4.30 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

## CHANNEL 4

**6.05 The Treacle People.** (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 Ironman 2012. 7.05 Strathclyde Park Triathlon. 8.00 Will & Grace. (R) 8.25 Will & Grace. (R) 8.55 Frasier. (R) 9.25 Frasier. (R) 10.00 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 1.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 1.30 The Simpsons. (R) 2.00 Film: The Spy Next Door. (2010) 3.45 Deal or No Deal. 4.45 Come Dine with Me: Ireland. 5.20 Come Dine with Me: Ireland. 5.55 Come Dine with Me: Ireland.  
**6.20 Come Dine with Me: Ireland.** A nervous Emma Carr hosts her first-ever dinner party, with a caricaturist helping to show her guests' true colours.  
**6.50 Come Dine with Me: Ireland.** Martin Butler hosts the final dinner party in Dublin. Last in the series.  
**7.20 Channel 4 News.**  
**7.50 Thoughtful.** A Buddhist nun explains how art helped her find peace.  
**7.55 The Political Slot.** With Green Party of England and Wales leader Natalie Bennett.  
**8.00 Fatal Flight 447: Chaos in the Cockpit.** The facts behind the crash of the Air France flight in June 2009.  
**9.00 Big Fat Quiz of the 80s.** New series. Jimmy Carr grills celebrities on decades gone by, beginning with the 1980s. Jonathan Ross, Jason Manford, Micky Flanagan and Stephen Mangan answer the questions.  
**10.35 Alan Carr: Chatty Man.** With Pink and Gok Wan. (R)  
**11.40 Shameless.** (R)  
**12.45 American Football Live.** 4.45 Deal or No Deal. (R) 5.40 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake!** Peppa Pig. 6.05 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Fifi and the Flowerpots. (R) 6.25 City of Friends. (R) 6.40 The Mr Men Show. (R) 6.50 Castle Farm. (R) 6.55 Abby's Flying Fairy School. (R) 7.05 Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) 7.15 Bananas in Pajamas. (R) 7.25 Play! (R) 7.35 Noddy in Toyland. (R) 7.50 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) 7.55 Little Princess. (R) 8.05 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.25 Angelina Ballerina. 8.40 Rupert Bear. (R) 8.55 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) 9.10 Toby's Travelling Circus. 9.25 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 9.40 Jelly Jamm. (R) 10.00 Power Rangers Samurai. 10.35 Batman: The Brave and the Bold. 11.10 Looney Tunes. (R) 11.15 Looney Tunes. (R) 11.25 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers. (R) 12.25 Film: Capricorn One. (1977) 2.45 Film: The Fifth Element. (1997) 5.05 Film: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. (1971)  
**7.10 5 News Weekend.**  
**7.15 Film: Jackie Chan's The Medallion.** (2003) Comedy adventure, starring Jackie Chan, Lee Evans and Claire Forlani.  
**9.00 Film: Swordfish.** (2001) A computer hacker is recruited by a former anti-terrorist agent to embezzle millions from the US government. Thriller, with John Travolta, Hugh Jackman.  
**11.00 Film: Desperado.** (1995) Action thriller, starring Antonio Banderas.  
**1.00 SuperCasino.** 4.00 The FBI Files. (R) 4.50 County Secrets. (R) 5.00 Hansa's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00 Be Your Own Boss** 8.00 Film: Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (2008) 10.00 Family Guy 10.45 Bad Education 11.15 American Dad!  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00 Julia Bradbury's Canal Walks** 7.30 The Story of Light Entertainment 9.00 The Pharaoh Who Conquered the Sea 10.00 Film: Loose Cannons (2010) 11.45 British Passions on Film  
**ITV2**  
**3.00 Film: Dennis** (1993) 4.50 The X Factor 5.55 The Xtra Factor 6.55 Film: Dante's Peak (1997) 9.00 The Xtra Factor 10.00 Film: Hot Fuzz (2007)  
**ITV3**  
**5.05 Film: On the Buses** (1971) 6.55 Lewis. A woman's murder is copied from the pages of a novel. 9.00 Film: Rain Man (1988) 11.45 Cracker  
**ITV4**  
**2.30 Live Cycling: Tour of Britain.** Stage eight from Reigate to Guildford. 4.30 Police, Camera, Action! 5.00 Film: Weekend at Bernie's (1989) 7.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain 8.00 Premiership Rugby Union 9.00 An Audience with Billy Connolly 10.10 Film: Coogan's Bluff (1968)  
**E4**  
**3.50 New Girl** 4.20 Suburgatory 4.50 Revenge 5.50 The Big Bang Theory 7.40 Film: Ever After: A Cinderella Story (1998) 10.00 The Intebweeners 11.05 2 Broke Girls 11.35 New Girl  
**Film4**  
**3.20 Von Ryan's Express** (1965) 5.35 Dr Dolittle (1998) 7.15 Stormbreaker (2006) 9.00 Clear and Present Danger (1994) Action thriller, with Harrison Ford. 11.45 Good Luck Chuck (2007)

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## What's On!

### Film Choices

#### MONDAY

##### Out of Time, Channel 5, 10pm

The chief of police in a small Florida town is having an affair with a married woman who is dying of cancer. When his lover and her abusive husband are both murdered, he becomes the prime suspect in the case – and his ex-wife is appointed as the investigating officer. Crime thriller, starring Denzel Washington, Eva Mendes, Dean Cain and Sanaa Lathan. (2003)

#### TUESDAY

##### Trust the Man, BBC1, 11.45pm

Two Manhattan-based couples hit a rocky patch in their relationships. Husband and wife Tom and Rebecca look to therapy and counselling to try to save their ailing marriage, while Tobey and Elaine decide to go their separate ways after seven difficult years together. Comedy drama, with David Duchovny, Julianne Moore, Billy Crudup and Maggie Gyllenhaal. (2005)

#### WEDNESDAY

##### Full Metal Jacket, ITV1, 10.35pm

Raw Marine recruits undergo gruelling basic training for the Vietnam War under the command of a domineering drill sergeant whose methods lead to the breakdown of one of his cadets. Eventually, some of the fully trained soldiers get their first taste of combat in 1968. Stanley Kubrick's drama, starring Matthew Modine, Adam Baldwin, Vincent D'Onofrio and R Lee Ermey. (1987)



Casino Royale, Friday, ITV1, 10.35pm

#### THURSDAY

##### Taken in Broad Daylight, BBC1, 11.35pm

Fact-based thriller about a teenage girl who is kidnapped and held hostage for six days. However, far from cracking up during her traumatic experience, she keeps her wits about her, manipulating her captor and leaving subtle clues for the police to ensure rescue as the abductor moves her across state lines. Fact-based thriller, with Sara Canning, James Van Der Beek, LeVar Burton and Diana Reis. (2009)

#### FRIDAY

##### Casino Royale, ITV1, 10.35pm

James Bond achieves his '00' status and is dispatched on the trail of Le Chiffre, an international criminal financing terrorist organisations around the world. Bond's investigation leads to a casino in Montenegro, where he takes part in a high-stakes poker game in a bid to bankrupt Le Chiffre and put an end to his plans. Spy thriller, directed by Martin Campbell and starring Daniel Craig in his first outing as 007, with Eva Green, Mads Mikkelsen, Judi Dench and Giancarlo Giannini. (2006)

### Pick of the Week

## Family matters are set to complicate events

The First World War is over, Sybil is pregnant with her first child and Mary is about to marry Matthew.

So, as we enter 1920, everything is well in the Crawley family's world, right?

Well, not exactly – after all, this is a TV drama, so misery, scandal, backbiting, chaos and tragedy can't be just around the corner.

Certainly life at Downton Abbey may never be the same again – Bates remains in jail after being wrongly convicted of his wife's murder, and butler Carson is struggling to find the 'right' kind of person to join the staff; it seems that the war has changed everything and people are no longer happy to spend their lives waiting hand and foot on wealthy aristocrats, not when they may have a chance to make something of themselves.

Of course the biggest news from this third series is that Oscar-winning Hollywood megastar Shirley MacLaine is joining the cast as Cora's redoubtable mother, Martha Levinson, who makes the journey across the

Atlantic for the big Crawley wedding.

"In those days the American women who had money were looking for titles, and the titled men were looking for American money," explains MacLaine. "So Martha fits the bill of the American matriarch who lands across the pond with money. And they expect her to finance whatever's wrong with Downton Abbey."

The actress, whose previous projects include such massive cinematic hits as Sweet Charity, Terms of Endearment, The Apartment and Steel Magnolias, will only be appearing in a handful of episodes, but is sure that her character will live long in the memory.

"She is extremely outspoken. Martha's basic role in these episodes is to plead with the Dowager Countess to wrest herself, if possible, away from tradition, because that's what caused the war in the first place, and to become more flexible in relating to change."

What viewers are looking forward to is seeing MacLaine and Maggie Smith (who plays the Dowager Countess), lock horns on screen – after all, they

are two of the acting game's most formidable, experienced and talented women.

But MacLaine lets us down slightly by claiming there won't be fireworks between them: "The gunfight at the OK Corral does not happen between Maggie and me. We do a little sparring, we have our moments, but it's more sophisticated than that. Martha is not just a crass, cranky American coming in there to call a spade a spade. She's very smart and to a large extent sensitive as to what's going on with all her daughter's children."

"And Maggie's character is so well established, but you have to look beyond what is her expected reaction to Martha. The Dowager Countess is a human being who has complications and a past of some pain that Martha understands – and to some extent addresses herself to."

MacLaine does, however, admit that she had a grand old time, and especially enjoyed filming at Highclere Castle, which doubles as Downton.

She's also sure we're going to enjoy watching her character in action – and, frankly, we can't wait to see her.



Shirley MacLaine stars in Downton Abbey, Sunday, ITV1, 9pm

### Best of the Rest

#### MONDAY

##### Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs ITV1, 8pm

Like Animal Hospital before it, this show tugs on the heartstrings with more skill than a seasoned cellist, but it's Paul O'Grady's quick wit and no-nonsense approach that makes it more than just an attempt to grab ratings. Once more POG is working with the canines at the world famous Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, and has his hands full when a behaviourist enlists him to work with a Rottweiler-bull mastiff cross with a fear of men. (Maybe Paul should adopt the guise of former alias Lily Savage). Plus, clinic workers attempt to find a home for two dogs that have developed a close friendship, and the centre receives a visit from model and centre ambassador David Gandy.

#### TUESDAY

##### Derren Brown: Svengali Channel 4, 9pm

He's back. Channel 4's favourite illusionist who has spent the past decade fronting shows such as Miracles for Sale, Derren Brown: Mind Control, and Messiah. A few months ago DB took his award-winning show to Nottingham's Theatre Royal, where he attempted to extract secret confessions from the audience, played forgettable mind games and revealed the wonder of Svengali – an automaton allegedly created in the image of its owner's dead son. Was it used in early Victorian magic shows, or is it another of Brown's eerie games? Tune in to this unnerving gig and make up your own mind.

#### The Rob Brydon Show BBC2, 10pm

It may have been in the pipeline for five years but a film version of classic cops and robbers saga The Sweeney has finally made it onto the big screen after a few false starts. Star Ray Winstone is doing his best to ensure everybody knows about it, so, aside from plugging the movie, he attempts to teach Rob how to act tough. Also this week, Brian Cox will be discussing his efforts to make science accessible for everyone. And as this series often seems like just an excuse for Rob Brydon to have a singalong with some of his celebrity mates, he'll no doubt jump at the chance to share the musical spotlight with Stereophonics singer Kelly Jones.

#### WEDNESDAY

##### Mrs Biggs ITV1, 9pm

Plenty of people wrote off this drama before it even began – after all, the story of The Great Train Robbery had already been told many times, what more could be said? As it turns out, plenty. The tale of Charmian Biggs, wife of the notorious Ronnie, has been enthralling so far, and it takes more twists and turns here. After having an affair and an abortion, Charmian helps plan Ronnie's escape and the family relocate to Australia. She falls pregnant again with their third son, and life seems to be getting back on track – until events back home suggest the police

haven't given up hope of finding the Biggs' just yet. Sheridan Smith and Danny Mays star.

#### Dallas

##### Channel 5, 9pm

Hurray! JR's arch enemy Cliff Barnes is back for the first time in more than 15 years, and it's just like old times. After the smirking oil baron calmly scuppers John Ross's plan to double-cross him, JR decides to move back to Southfork. However, the Ewings are faced with more problems when Cliff resurfaces and tries to reconnect with his nephew Christopher. Elsewhere, Tommy has intriguing news for Rebecca.

#### THURSDAY

##### Good Cop BBC1, 9pm

Few actors who've left the bright lights of Chester's Hollyoaks behind in search of a good, meaty role in telly have actually found it. But clearly with Warren Brown we're dealing with a whole different kettle of fish – and he's settled into the role of PC Paul Rocksavage rather nicely. But like all good things, this series must come to an end. In the final instalment, Sav seems to be having a bit of trouble with not

letting his emotions get in the way of his work; in fact, his quest to get Jonjo arrested for Andy's murder draws suspicion from Costello and Sarge. But it's only when a set-up with Amanda goes very wrong, that the cop decides to do things his way...

#### FRIDAY

##### Parade's End BBC2, 9pm

Given Benedict Cumberbatch's piping hot status, it was a curious decision by the BBC to take a drama adapted by internationally acclaimed writer Tom Stoppard and then put it on BBC2 on a Friday night. If over a show had a prime-time Sunday night slot stamped all over it, it was this one. Now the final part of the tale based on Ford Madox Ford's quartet of novels sees Christopher sent to the front line of the First World War with McKechnie and Perowne, while Valentine waits for news from him. And Sylvia makes a final desperate bid to win back his love.

#### Being Liverpool Channel 5, 9pm

It's been a difficult summer for Liverpool. Kop favourite Kenny Dalglish left the club for a second time, and Brendan Rodgers was poached from Swansea City. Sadly the first few games of the new season haven't exactly gone to plan – with some fans pinpointing the club's inability to sign a new striker at the heart of the team's problems. So, with turmoil on and off the pitch, this new, six-part series should prove fascinating. Filming began just days after Liverpool's defeat to Chelsea in the FA Cup final, and cameras have been allowed full access to all aspects of the club and players.

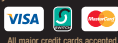
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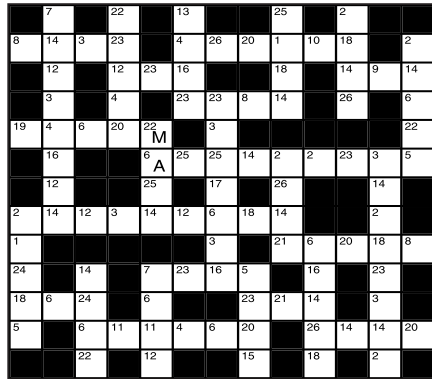


## Brain Gym

No.186

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

O	B	S	N	V	G	P	U	F	Q	Y	D	Z
W	K	L	T	C	X	J	R	A	I	M	H	E

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

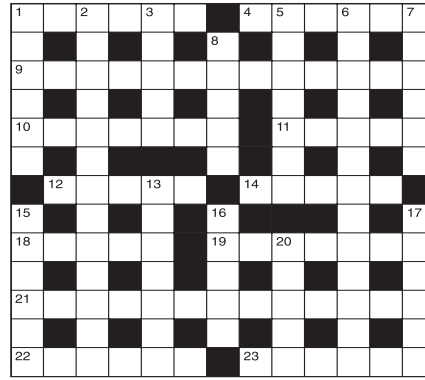
## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

1. I put in a call for ventilation (6)
4. It's always one thing or the other (6)
9. The bird song that wakes you at dawn? (7,6)
10. The height of a severe storm (7)
11. Flier has a sash in the Royal Navy (5)
12. You're going places if they're in the right direction (5)
14. It may be trodden on in flight (5)
18. Inferior ox, for example (5)
19. Citizen under discussion (7)
21. It helps to drive one round the bend (8,5)
22. Passes on the messages about the races? (6)
23. A guess about customs (6)

## Down

1. An abnormal appetite, no argument about that (6)
2. In turn it benefits the lucky gambler (8,5)
3. I've an arrangement that's simple (5)
5. Get what is left (7)
6. Though yellow at heart, it won't run (4-6,3)
7. Mounting a revolt, perhaps (6)
8. An entrance of ornamental stone (5)
13. Show a beam that is left (7)
15. A cloister will be more confined without it (6)
16. Employing some various ingredients (5)
17. Illicit photographs? (6)
20. They are certainly biased but game (5)



## Quick Clues:

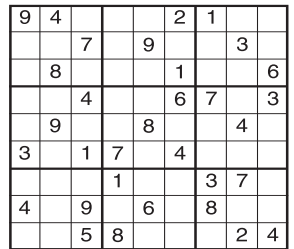
## Across

1. Condition (6)
4. Over-indulge (6)
9. Remonstrance (13)
10. Anguish (7)
11. Abide (5)
12. Suppress (5)
14. Not suitable (5)
18. Of a town (5)
19. Lean (7)
21. Theme (7-6)
22. Happenings (6)
23. Astral (6)

## Down

1. Abundance (6)
2. Calm (13)
3. Hurry (5)
5. Forsake (7)
6. Premier (5,8)
7. Fester (6)
8. Out of practice (5)
13. Merciful (7)
15. Chase (6)
16. Hackneyed (5)
17. Cordial (6)
20. Sea-map (5)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS &gt;

1	3	5	1	2	9	6	7	2
9	4	6	1	2	7	3	5	8
2	8	7	5	6	3	1	9	4
4	1	9	8	3	5	7	2	6
3	6	8	7	9	2	4	1	5
7	5	2	6	1	4	9	8	3
8	2	4	9	7	6	3	1	5
5	7	3	2	4	1	8	6	9
6	9	1	3	5	8	2	4	7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Happy landing; 7 Reset; 8 Nurse; 9 Gig; 10 Calendars; 11 Relief; 12 Eclair; 15 Eye-opener; 17 Ash; 18 Extra; 19 Idled; 21 Broken hearts. Down: Head gardener; 2 Yes; 3 Attila; 4 Dining-car; 5 Norma; 6 Leisure hours; 7 Regal; 10 Chequered; 13 Award; 14 Ensign; 16 Enter; 20 Lee. QUICK - Across: 1 Illumination; 7 Foyer; 8 Steer; 9 Fee; 10 Shakespear; 11 Exhume; 12 Porter; 15 Animosity; 17 Asp; 18 Lithic; 19 Level; 21 Protestation. Down: 1 Insufferable; 2 May; 3 Normal; 4 Testimony; 5 Obese; 6 Prescription; 7 Fresh; 10 Somnolent; 13 Trail; 14 Titles; 16 Inter; 20 Via. LAST WEEK'S CIRCLEGRAM SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is C. Coventry, Lincoln, Carlisle, all English cities.

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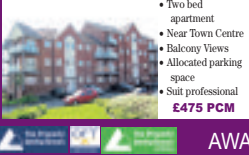
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On the first floor bedroom one has an en suite with vanity wash hand basin, low-level WC and shower, and there are three more bedrooms and a bathroom with white suite comprising panelled bath with shower and screen, pedestal wash hand basin and WC.

There is an integral garage which has been shortened, while outside to the front is a gravelled and forecourt with ample of road parking, while the rear garden is partly walled and has a block-paved patio with raised barbecue and seating and space for timber garden shed.

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It can be used by first time buyers or second steppers without enough equity in their current home to move on.

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### PROPERTY AUCTION 2nd OCTOBER 2012



#### St. MICHAELS & ALL ANGELS' VICARAGE St. MICHAEL'S STREET, WALSALL

An imposing individual Detached House offering well proportioned and very spacious accommodation in need of some upgrade and refurbishment. Fine Hall, Three Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, Pantry, WC, Stores, Cellar, Six Bedrooms, Bathroom and Separate WC. Enclosed Rear Garden, off-road Parking

Guide: £90,000/£110,000

**VIEWING: ALL THOSE VIEWING MUST BRING A TORCH  
NO TORCH = NO VIEWING**

**THURSDAY & FRIDAY,  
13th & 14th SEPTEMBER @ 10.30 am**



#### 70/70A WROTTESLEY ROAD, TETTENHALL

In a prime residential area, a Detached Property comprising Two Self-Contained Flats. Each offers Kitchen, Lounge, Dining Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Outside - Two Garages and delightful extensive Gardens

Guide: £250,000/£270,000

**VIEWING: THURSDAY 13th  
SEPTEMBER @ 1.45 pm & SATURDAY  
15th SEPTEMBER @ 10.30 am**



**100 LESLIE ROAD, PARK VILLAGE, WOLVERHAMPTON**  
Large double fronted Victorian Detached  
Two Reception, Kitchen, Shower Room, Two Double Bedrooms & Bathroom  
Very large Workshop/Store at rear - approx 1,100 sq ft.  
Double doors for access at side

Guide: £85,000/£95,000  
**VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 14th & 15th  
SEPTEMBER @ 11.45 am**



#### 95 NINE ELMS LANE, PARK VILLAGE, WOLVERHAMPTON

On a large corner plot this well presented Semi overlooks parkland  
Two Reception and Study area, Kitchen, fitted Cloakroom,  
Three Bedrooms, Bathroom  
Gas CH, upvc Windows, Two Drives & Garages, pleasant Garden

Guide: £98,000/£93,000  
**VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
14th & 15th SEPTEMBER @ 12.30 p.m.**



#### 25 SOMERFORD PLACE, WILLENHALL

An impressive Detached Late Victorian House used as Two Flats  
Ground Floor: Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, WC, Cellar  
First Floor: Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, smart Shower Room, Separate WC  
Driveway at side, Garage, Outbuilding and Garden

Guide: £93,000/£98,000

**VIEWING: THURSDAY & FRIDAY  
13th & 14th SEPTEMBER @ 12.00 noon**



#### 82 CROSS ROAD, ALBRIGHTON

A short distance from the centre of this attractive and popular village which offers most amenities.  
A Three Bedroomed Semi overlooking open fields and with pleasant Rear Garden  
Improvement/modernisation needed

Guide: £93,000/£98,000

**VIEWING: THURSDAY 13th SEPTEMBER @ 3.00 pm  
& SATURDAY 15th SEPTEMBER @ 9.30 am**



#### 57 CENTRAL DRIVE, COSELEY

A large immaculately presented First Floor Flat overlooking an open green and with the benefit of Garden to the rear  
Spacious Lounge, well appointed Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, smart Bathroom  
Gas Central Heating, Store and Outside Store

Guide: £59,000/£64,000

**VIEWING: FRIDAY 14th SEPTEMBER @ 3.30 pm  
& SATURDAY 15th SEPTEMBER @ 12.30 pm**



#### 24 ST JUDES ROAD WEST, NEWBRIDGE, WOLVERHAMPTON

Located close to the Girls' High School and within a mile of the City Centre  
A character Semi-Detached in need of modernisation  
Two Reception, Kitchen, Lounge, Dining Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom  
Long Rear Garden

Guide: £73,000/£78,000

**VIEWING: THURSDAY 13th SEPTEMBER @ 1.00 pm  
& SATURDAY 15th SEPTEMBER @ 11.30 am**



#### 243 MERRIDALE STREET WEST, PENN FIELDS

Well presented End Terraced at head of cul de sac  
Modernised with Upvc windows, Central Heating, modern Kitchen,  
GF Bathroom, Two Reception, Three Bedrooms, smart FF Shower Room  
Verandah, enclosed Garden at rear

Guide: £48,000/£53,000

**VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 14th & 15th  
SEPTEMBER @ 11.00 am**



#### 646 PARKFIELD ROAD, PARKFIELDS, WOLVERHAMPTON

Large Semi with rear vehicular access and Garage  
Upvc Windows, Gas CH  
Two Reception, Kitchen, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, First Floor WC  
Two Outside Stores, attractive Garden

Guide: £58,000/£63,000

**VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
14th & 15th SEPTEMBER @ 1.30 p.m.**

**ALBRIGHTON,  
HIGH HOUSE LANE**  
Freehold Plot of Land in lovely rural location and having road frontage  
Estimated two thirds of an acre - ideal paddock or other uses  
(subject to Planning as may be necessary)  
Guide: £8,000/£12,000

**FOR SALE BY  
PUBLIC AUCTION**  
(subject to conditions and prior sale)  
on TUESDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2012 @ 6.30 p.m.  
at the **Ramada Park Hall Hotel**  
Park Drive, Goldthorn Park,  
Wolverhampton WV4 5AJ  
**VIEWING OF ALL LOTS  
AT OWN RISK**  
Please note: Viewings are at times specified so, should you arrive late, you may find your viewing time is limited or that we have moved on in order to maintain the time schedule.



# WANTED

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## Home of Property

contracting people with property

# Large plot and views over the countryside of South Staffs

A SINGLE-storey property on a near half-acre plot and enjoying outstanding views over the South Staffordshire countryside is for sale based on offers around £475,000.

Benefiting from gas central heating, Long Reach, Perton Grove, Wightwick, retains a deal of original character and many features including guest cloaks, WC, living room with dining area and large picture windows, fitted breakfast kitchen, utility room, three bedrooms, study/bedroom four and bathroom.

On an elevated position within the premier residential area of Wightwick, it stands behind a lawned foregarden and is approached via a substantial red asphalt driveway providing off-road parking for a number of cars and access to the attached double width garage.

There is a T-shaped entrance hall with walk-in cloaks cupboard, a guest cloak WC with WC and wash hand basin and lounge - 22ft by 20ft 10in - with feature brick fireplace with living flame gas fire and patio door to the rear garden, while the dining area has a serving hatch to the breakfast kitchen which measures 11ft 10in by 8ft 9in. This has a range of fitted wall, base and display units, one and a half bowl single drainer sink with mixer tap, roll edge work surfaces and breakfast bar, four ring ceramic hob with extractor hood and

plumbing for dishwasher. A utility room has a Belfast sink with plumbing for a washing machine. There is a side hall, 11ft 2in by 5ft 11in.

There are three bedrooms, a study/bedroom four and bathroom with panel bath with mixer shower, pedestal wash hand basin and bidet.

The rear garden has a substantial paved patio leading onto a shaped lawn with borders, and with steps down from the upper garden onto an extensive lower lawn with trees. There is also a summerhouse and integrated into the rear of the garage are three storage rooms.

Call Stevenon Land & Estate Agents on 01902 753131 for more details.

## K. Stuart Swash

**MARLEN, HIGH STREET  
CLAVERLEY WV5 7DR**



Delightfully situated near the Village Centre and with magnificent open views to the rear - a Detached Bungalow now in need of some upgrading. Long Rear Garden, small Orchard with Paddock beyond

Total area - 2.85 acres or thereabouts

**FOR SALE BY INFORMAL TENDER  
OFFERS BASED ON £340,000**

**01902 710626**



This detached property is at Wightwick, on the western fringe of Wolverhampton



## Estate Agents & Letting Agents Chartered Surveyors RICS HomeBuyer Service



**HONEYBOURNE WAY, KINGFISHER EST**

- Modern 3 Bed Detached
- Gas Central Heating & Mainly Double Glazed
- Through Lounge/Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen with Utility off
- En suite and family bathroom
- Integral Garage
- Large corner plot with potential to extend

**OFFERS £174,950**



**GREAVES CRESCENT, WILLENHALL**

- Extended 3 Bed Semi-Detached
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Lounge and Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Crete print driveway
- Integral Garage

**OFFERS £137,000**



**MORETON AVE, ETTINGSHALL PARK,**

- Immaculate Extended Semi
- Through Lounge
- Dining Room Extension
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Tandem Garage Extension
- Driveway with Gated Access

**OFFERS £129,995**



**CHAUCER AVENUE, WILLENHALL**

- Modern Three Bedroom Semi-detached
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- Front Driveway and rear garden
- Side Garage
- Possible opportunity to buy on 50% shared ownership

**OFFERS £124,950 or £62,500 for 50% share**



**LONGWOOD RISE, SHORT HEATH,**

- 2 Bed Semi-Detached House
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Garage/Store
- Paved Gardens for ease of Maintenance

**OFFERS £110,000**



**ST ANNE'S ROAD, WILLENHALL**

- Modern 2 bed semi detached
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall
- Fitted Kitchen with hob and oven
- Lounge with feature fireplace
- Block paved frontage for off road parking

**OFFERS £99,950**



**FAIRLAWN WAY, WILLENHALL**

- First Floor Flat
- One Bedroom
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating
- Bathroom

**\$325pcm**



**HAVERALL PLACE, SHARNHALL, WOLVERHAMPTON**

- Ground Floor Flat
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Garage & Allocated Parking Space

**\$595pcm**



**RATCLIFFE DRIVE, WILLENHALL**

- Detached House
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Garage
- DG & GCH

**\$650pcm**



**THE CRESCENT, WALSALL**

- Fully Refurbished Deatched House
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Bathroom
- UPVC DG & GCH
- Garage

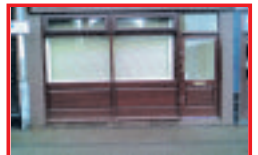
**\$750pcm**



**GLENEAGLES ROAD, BLOXWICH**

- Link Detached House
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Garage

**\$695pcm**



**CHURCH STREET, DARLASTON**

- Newly Refurbished Ground Floor Flat
- One Bedroom
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Double Glazing, Electric Heating

**\$375pcm**



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**Bloxwich  
Stafford Road**  
● Extended Four Bedroom Detached  
● Three Reception Rooms  
● Re-Fitted Kitchen & Bathroom  
● Dressing Area & En-Suite  
● Two Garages  
● Large Front & Rear Gardens ● Parking

In the Region of £399,950



**Bloxwich  
Enderley Drive**  
● Three bedroom detached bungalow  
● Lounge / Diner ● Re-Fitted Kitchen  
● Re-Fitted Shower Room ● Separate W.C.  
● Double Glazed/Central Heating  
● Garage ● Front Garden Block Paved

In the Region of £289,950



**Bloxwich  
Lichfield Road**  
● Extended Four/Five Bed Semi-Detached  
● Three Reception Rooms ● Kitchen  
● Family Bathroom  
● Attic Bedroom  
● Integral Garage & Off Road Parking

£244,950



**Bloxwich  
Kedleston Close**  
● Four Bedroom Detached  
● Lounge ● Dining Room ● Kitchen  
● Study/Games Room ● Utility ● En-Suite  
● Guest Cloakroom ● Conservatory  
● Family Bathroom ● Detached Garage

In the Region of £239,950



**Bloxwich  
Victoria Avenue**  
● Four Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge ● Open Plan Kitchen/Diner  
● Jack & Jill Family Bathroom  
● Conservatory ● Tarmac Driveway  
● Large Rear Garden With Block Paving

In the Region of £215,000



**Walsall  
Birmingham Road**  
● Five Bedroom Victorian Family Home  
● Extended Kitchen/Diner  
● Bathroom  
● Block Paved Driveway  
● Rear Landscaped Garden

Offers in excess £199,950



**Bloxwich  
Field Road**  
● Four Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Fully Re-Furbished ● Two Reception Rooms  
● Re-Fitted Kitchen ● Conservatory  
● Utility Room ● Family Bathroom  
● Rear Garden ● Garages & Workshop

In the Region of £199,000



**Bloxwich  
Ambergate Close**  
● Extended Four Bed Semi-Detached  
● Two Reception Rooms ● Fitted Kitchen  
● Two Bathrooms ● Off Road Parking  
● D.Glazing & G.C. Heating  
● Well Presented Rear Garden

In the Region £195,000



**Bloxwich  
Lytham Grove**  
● Three Bedroom Detached  
● Two Reception Rooms ● Fitted Kitchen  
● Cloakroom W.C. ● En-Suite  
● Solid Timber Flooring ● Family Bathroom  
● Conservatory ● Integral Garage

£192,000



**Essington  
Albany Grove**  
● Four Bedroom Detached  
● Two Reception Rooms  
● Extended Kitchen ● Conservatory  
● Family Bathroom ● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Carport & Garage ● Driveway

In the Region of £185,000



**Bloxwich  
Lydford Road**  
● Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow  
● Lounge ● Kitchen ● Family Bathroom  
● Gas Central Heating  
● Garage & Off Road Parking  
● Corner Plot Location

In the Region of £180,000



**Willenhall  
Crab Lane**  
● Four Bedroom Link-Detached  
● Through Lounge/Diner ● Kitchen  
● Ground Floor Shower Room  
● First Floor Shower Room ● Utility Room  
● Garage & Off Road Parking ● Gardens

Offers in excess of £175,000



**Willenhall  
Wood Lane**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Open Plan Lounge/Dining Room  
● Fitted Kitchen ● Family Bathroom  
● Conservatory ● Garage/Workshop  
● Gardens ● Off Road Parking

In the Region of £165,000



**Walsall  
Water Reed Grove**  
● Three Bedroom Detached  
● Lounge ● Kitchen ● Dining Room  
● Cloakroom W.C. ● Family Bathroom  
● Master Bed with En-Suite Shower Room  
● Gardens ● Garage & Off Road Parking

In the Region of £159,950



**Willenhall  
Dursley Close**  
● Three Bedroom Detached  
● Through Lounge/Dining Room  
● Sitting Room ● Fitted Kitchen  
● Utility Room ● Bathroom ● Rear Garden  
● Integral Garage & Block Paved Driveway

Offers in excess of £149,950



**Walsall  
Leamore Lane**  
● Three Bedroom Town House  
● Kitchen/Diner ● Study ● Cloakroom W.C.  
● First Floor Lounge ● Family Bathroom  
● En-Suite Shower Room ● Gardens  
● Detached Garage

In the Region of 145,000



**Walsall  
Leamore Lane**  
● Three Bedroom Town House  
● Lounge ● Kitchen/Diner  
● En-Suite ● Family Bathroom  
● Front & Rear Gardens ● Garage  
● Off Road Parking to Rear

In the Region of £135,000



**Walsall  
Little Island Drive**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge ● Kitchen/Diner ● Driveway  
● Master Bedroom with En-Suite  
● Family Bathroom ● Integral Garage  
● Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing

Offers Over £130,000



**Willenhall  
High Road**  
● Three Bedroom Detached  
● Open Plan Lounge/Dining Room  
● Fitted Kitchen ● Utility Room  
● Family Bathroom ● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Off Road Parking ● D.Glazing & Central Heating

Offers in excess of £130,000



**Bloxwich  
Newhome Way**  
● Three Bedroom Town House  
● Fitted Kitchen ● Lounge  
● Cloakroom W.C. ● Family Bathroom  
● En-Suite Shower Room ● Gardens  
● Detached Garage & Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £130,000



**Bloxwich  
Drake Road**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge ● Kitchen ● Bathroom  
● Extended Dining Room  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Garage & Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £129,950



**Walsall  
Smiths Flour Mill**  
● Two Bedroom Penthouse Apartment  
● Lounge ● Integrated Fitted Kitchen  
● Electric Heating & Double Glazing  
● Allocated Parking ● Family Bathroom  
● Many Upgrades (Please ask for Details)

Offers in excess of £125,000



**Bloxwich  
Grantown Grove**  
● Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace  
● Kitchen ● Lounge ● Fitted Bathroom  
● Rear Enclosed Garden  
● Two Allocated Parking Spaces  
● Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

In the Region of £116,950



**Rushall  
King George Crescent**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Two Reception Rooms  
● Fitted Kitchen ● Family Bathroom  
● Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating  
● Gardens ● Driveway ● NO CHAIN

In the Region of £115,000



**Bloxwich  
Henley Close**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge ● Extended Kitchen  
● Dining Room ● Family Bathroom  
● Gardens ● Garage & Driveway  
● Part Gas Central & Double Glazing

In the Region of £110,000



**Walsall  
Bloxwich Road**  
● Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace  
● Extended Lounge ● Kitchen  
● Rear Lobby/Utility ● Guest W.C.  
● Wet Room ● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Rear Access Off Road Parking

In the Region of £110,000



**Bloxwich  
Beeches Road**  
● Two Bedroom Semi Detached  
● Lounge ● Kitchen/Diner  
● Utility ● Family Bathroom  
● Large Rear Garden ● Off Road Parking  
● Corner Plot with room to extend

Offers in excess of £105,000



**Walsall  
Parsons Way**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge ● Bespoke Fitted Kitchen  
● Utility Room ● Family Bathroom  
● Gardens ● D.Glazing & Central Heating  
● Large Storage Unit to Rear

In the Region of £99,950



**Bloxwich  
Bell Tower Close**  
● Two Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment  
● Open Plan Lounge/Diner ● Fitted Kitchen  
● Family Bathroom ● Communal Grounds  
● Double Glazed & Gas Central Heating  
● Allocated Parking ● NO CHAIN

In the Region of £87,500



**Bloxwich  
Glastonbury Crescent**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge ● Kitchen  
● Rear Lobby with Downstairs W.C.  
● Family Bathroom ● Separate W.C.  
● Gardens ● Detached Garage to Rear

Offers in excess of £85,000



**Bloxwich  
Booth Street**  
● Extended Three Bedroom Semi  
● Lounge ● Dining Room ● Kitchen  
● Garage ● Off Road Parking  
● Rear Garden ● Gas Central Heating  
● Part Double Glazing ● NO CHAIN

In the Region of £85,000



**Willenhall  
Lichfield Road**  
● Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace  
● Lounge ● Open Plan Kitchen/Diner  
● Conservatory ● Shower Room  
● Front & Rear Gardens ● NO CHAIN  
● Gated Rear Access & Allocated Parking

In the Region of £85,000



**Willenhall  
Tennyson Road**  
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
● Lounge ● Kitchen ● Lobby/Storage  
● Bathroom ● Separate W.C.  
● Partial Double Glazing  
● Gas Central Heating ● Gardens

£84,500



**Walsall  
Aintree House, Terret Close**  
● Two Bedroom Apartment  
● Lounge ● Fitted Kitchen ● Bathroom  
● Master Bedroom With En-Suite  
● Electric Heating ● Double Glazing  
● Off Road Parking

In the Region of £79,995



**Walsall  
Jubilee Close**  
● Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace  
● Kitchen ● Reception Room ● Bathroom  
● Kitchen ● Family Bathroom  
● Verandah ● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Part Central Heating & D.Glazing

In the Region of £78,000



**Walsall  
Gurney Road**  
● Two Bedroom End Terrace  
● Lounge ● Kitchen ● Bathroom  
● Front & Rear Gardens  
● Corner Plot scope to extend  
● Double Glazing & Central Heating

Offers in excess of £70,000

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# DIXONS

## Estate Agents

Willenhall Office  
01902 634497

DoingMore...

### Edmoor Close, Willenhall



£150,000

NEW

A well presented three bedroom detached home situated in a rarely available cul-de-sac just off Coppice Lane. Extended to allow for a spacious kitchen/breakfast room and separate dining room. Also benefitting from garage and driveway. Vendor is motivated to sell and has found. Call us today to view

### Riverbank Road, Willenhall



£150,000

NEW

A "showhome style" three bedroom semi-detached home with garage situated on the extremely sought after "Riverpoint" development. Benefitting further from refitted bathroom and a stunning en-suite with bespoke bath tub and furthermore a newly fitted kitchen!!! Viewing is essential!!!

### Newark Road, Willenhall



Offers Over £120,000

NEW

A three bedroom semi detached home situated on the popular "Broadway" development. Benefitting from a refitted kitchen and bathroom and extension to allow for utility room. Priced realistically a viewing is advised early to avoid disappointment.

### Maree Grove, Willenhall



£190,000

NEW

A well presented four bedroom detached with en-suite. Situated on the popular "Coppice Farm" development in a cul-de-sac location. A viewing is highly recommended to avoid missing out!!! Call us today for an appointment to view!!!

### Bentley Lane, Willenhall



£230,000

REDUCED

A "Showhome Style" five bedroom, three bathroom detached home situated ideally for local shops and schools. Thought to offer more space than is usual due to being designed and built by the present owners. A viewing is absolutely essential!!! seller has found.

### Pooles Lane, Willenhall



£200,000

Traditional Family Home with kerb appeal & character. Envious rear garden, garage, guest WC, bathroom & bedrooms. Traditional features including high ceilings, landing & entrance hallway.

### Pineneedle Croft, Willenhall



£150,000

REDUCED

A four bedroom semi detached home situated in a sought after cul-de-sac off Stroud Avenue. Benefitting from a Kitchen/Diner and extension adding generous bedroom space. A viewing is essential to appreciate the scale of this house.

### Lydney Close, Willenhall



£140,000

REDUCED

An extended home in a cul-de-sac spot off the popular Stroud Ave. Four bedrooms with even the smallest measuring Refitted bathroom & a larger than average garage!!! Owners selling with No Chain.

### Upper Sneyd Road, Essington



£120,000

A stunningly presented three bedroom terraced cottage situated on a prestigious road in Essington. Having been extensively refitted internally and benefitting from a beautifully landscaped rear garden. With views of open fields to the rear. Viewing essential!!!

### Bilston Lane, Willenhall



£99,995

A traditional style three bedroom semi detached home situated on an exceptional plot close to Willenhall Town Centre. In need of some improvement works. Offered with no upward chain.

### Foster Street, Wednesbury



£110,000

REDUCED TO £110,000!! A well presented three bedroom end-terraced home with an impressive double garage to the rear. Benefitting from refitted kitchen and bathroom. A viewing is essential!!! Viewings by appointment. Call us to view today!!!

### Waite Road, Willenhall



£115,000

An extended three bedroom semi detached home presented in immaculate order. Benefitting from many upgrades and improvements by the present owner a viewing is absolutely essential!!!

### Bader Road, Walsall



£110,000

NEW

A three bedroom semi-detached home situated in a cul-de-sac location in Bentley close to Jct. 10 M6. Benefitting from a spacious kitchen/diner and presented in good order. Further benefits are utility room and downstairs WC.

### Pugh Crescent, Walsall



£80,000

A well presented three bedroom semi detached home benefitting from conservatory, garage and driveway. A viewing is absolutely essential to appreciate the level of accommodation on offer.

### Brockeridge Close, Willenhall



£300,000

A "Showhome" style five bedroom, two bathroom detached home situated on a corner plot with detached double garage. Refurbished to an extremely high specification with great attention to detail by the current owners. This property comprises of five bedrooms, dining room, Cloakroom, side gardens, bathroom detached double garage and breakfast kitchen. "Call Dixons on 01902 634497 to arrange a viewing"

### Wellington Terrace, Wellington Place



£59,950

A two bedroom terraced property with no chain, in need of some modernisation. Briefly comprises two reception rooms, kitchen, utility room and a bathroom.

### Bloxwich Road North, Willenhall



£300,000

A beautifully presented traditional style three bedroom detached residence. Benefitting from planning permission granted to extend allowing for a further bedroom with en-suite, larger kitchen/diner, utility room and a spacious sitting room. Plans are available to view at Dixons, Short Heath. No upward chain!!! Viewings are essential!!! "Call Dixons on 01902 634497 to arrange a viewing"



www.dixonsestateagents.co.uk



**auCTION**  
**HOUSE**  
**EDWARDS MOORE**

Estate House, Darwall Street,  
Walsall WS1 1DA  
**01922 615222**

**Auction**

Wednesday 10th  
October at 6.30pm  
precisely  
**Venue**  
Banks's Stadium, Bescot  
Crescent, Walsall

# For Sale by public auction on Wednesday 10th October @ 6.30pm.

To be held at Banks's Stadium Bescot Crescent, Walsall,  
WS1 4SA (Subject to prior sale and conditions)

**Lot 2** **90 Woodhouses Road,  
Burntwood, Staffs, WS7 9EJ.**

Viewing: Saturday 15th September at 12.00 pm, Wednesday 19th September at 11.00 am, Saturday 29th September at 12.00 pm and Wednesday 3rd October at 11.00 am



A detached cottage situated on a pleasant country lane on the outskirts of Burntwood. Reception Hall, Through Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**Guide Price £130,000-£150,000**

**Lot 3** **174 Swan Gardens,  
Erdington, B23 6QQ**

Viewing: Strictly by appointment through Auctioneers on 0121-289-3838



Residential Investment situated close to the centre of Erdington. Ground floor studio currently let at £375.00 per calendar month on a 6 month Assured Shorthold Tenancy commencing 14th September 2012 comprising Living/Bedroom, Kitchen and Bathroom

**Guide Price £28,000-£38,000**

**Lot 4** **19 Park Road, Hammerwich,  
Burntwood, WS7 0EE**

Viewing: 12th September at 12.00pm, 24th September at 11.00 am, 26th September at 12.00 pm, 6th October at 11.00 am



A modern link detached bungalow residence with the benefit of gas fired central heating (not tested) and double glazing situated in a quiet well respected location within a short distance of Burntwood island. Set back from the road behind a block paved driveway affording ample off street parking approached via double gates the property comprises Large Utility/Store Room, Kitchen, Lounge, Inner Hallway, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Conservatory, Rear Garden.

**Guide Price £90,000-£100,000**

**Lot 5** **20 Botany Road,  
Walsall, WS5 4ND**

Viewing: 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th September and 5th October all at 12.15pm



Traditionally styled semi detached residence. The property was formally three bedroomed but is now two bedroomed but could be converted with little expenditure and offers an ideal opportunity for first time buyers/investors. Comprising: Fully Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Kitchen, Lobby, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**Guide Price £65,000-£75,000**

**Lot 1** **111 Lord Street,  
Walsall, WS1 4DR**

Viewing: 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th September and 5th October all at 11.45am



Victorian mid terraced residence comprising: Lounge,

Rear Living Room, Inner Hallway, Kitchen Two

Bedrooms, Bathroom. Fore and Rear Gardens

**Guide Price £50,000-£60,000**

**Lot 6** **Land Cricket Close,  
Walsall, WS5 3PU**



Freehold land situated just off Birmingham Road as described in office copy entry title number WM52071 which consists of an adopted road together with two small plots, one in-between 1 and 3 Cricket Close, the other between 9 and 11 Cricket Close. These potential rights of way lead to allotments which are currently unused and one of these access points needs to be retained.

**Guide Price £10,000-£15,000**

**Lot 7** **37 Birchfield Way,  
Walsall, WS5 4EA**

Viewing: Strictly by appointment through Auctioneers on 01922 615222



A traditionally styled semi detached property with part double glazing and part central heating for which CASH OFFERS are required. Comprising: Entrance Hall, Living Room, Kitchen, Side Hall, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate W.C.

**Guide Price £55,000-£65,000**

**Lot 8** **7 Circuit Close,  
Willenhall, WV13 1EB**

Viewing: 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th September and 5th October all at 10.30 am



Purpose built first floor studio flat set in a popular residential development comprising Lounge, Kitchen,

residential development comprising Lounge, Kitchen,

Shower Room.

**Guide Price £28,000-£34,000**

**Lot 9** **2 Whitehead Drive,  
Sutton Coldfield, B76 9AN**

Viewing: Strictly by appointment through Auctioneers on 0121 289 3838



A traditional style mid terraced house. The property offers spacious family accommodation and comprises of the following: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen Three Bedrooms, Box Room, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Garden.

**Guide Price £100,000-£120,000**

**Lot 10** **128a Chase Road,  
Burntwood, Staffs, WS7 0DT**

Viewing: Wednesday 12th September at 11.00 am, Saturday 22nd September at 12.00 pm, Wednesday 26th September at 11.00 am and Saturday 6th October at 12.00 pm



A two bedroom link detached bungalow with garage in convenient location. Enclosed Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Inner Hallway, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Dining Room, Kitchen, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**Guide Price £90,000-£110,000**

**Lot 11** **3 Wats Drive, Oswestry,  
Shropshire, SY11 1ET**

Viewing: Strictly by appointment through Auctioneer on 0121 289 3838



A well appointed two bedroom detached bungalow, conveniently located and comprising: Entrance Hall, Living Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate W.C., Fore and Rear Gardens, Utility Store.

**Guide Price £70,000-£90,000**

**Lot 12** **19 Penryn Road,  
Walsall, WS5 3EU**

Viewing: Strictly by appointment through Auctioneers on 01922 615222



A modern detached residence offering well planned spacious accommodation comprising: Entrance Hall, Dining Room, Lounge, Conservatory, Inner Lobby, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate Shower Room, Separate W.C. Garage, Fore and Rear Garden.

**Guide Price £150,000-£160,000**

**Lot 13** **5 Roundhill Way,  
Brownhills, WS8 7PW**

Viewing: 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th September and 5th October all at 9.45 am



A three bedroom semi detached property situated within a short distance of M6 toll road comprising: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Part tiled Shower Room, Fore, Side and Rear Gardens with Separate Garage.

**Guide Price £70,000-£80,000**

**Lot 14** **43 Martingale Close,  
Walsall, WS5 4QB**

Viewing: 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th September and 5th October all at 12.45pm



Three bedroom link detached property with central heating and double glazing and comprising Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, W.C., Kitchen, Lounge, Dining Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage Fore and Rear Garden.

**Guide Price £100,000-£120,000**

**Lot 15** **46a Jerome Road,  
Walsall, WS2 9SX**

Viewing: 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th September and 5th October all at 11.00 am



A traditionally styled semi-detached dwelling house set in an elevated position on the Alumwell estate in Walsall, this property is in need of complete modernisation and improvement with attention to rear garden being essential comprising: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Side Lobby and Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Gardens.

**Guide Price £45,000-£55,000**

**Lot 16** **545 Kingsbury Road,  
Erdington, B24 9NJ**

Viewing: Strictly by appointment through Auctioneers on 0121 289 3838



This traditionally styled semi detached property is in need of full modernisation and improvement and is situated in a popular and sought after residential area and offers tremendous scope and improvement. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Rear Living Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom. Fore and Rear Gardens.

**Guide Price £50,000-£60,000**



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**Willenhall**  
01902 631151

**Walsall/Bloxwich area**  
01922 689016

**Wednesfield**  
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01902 686868



**Zoopla.co.uk**



**WALSALL**  
**MOORSIDE GARDENS**

- Pleasantly appointed first floor flat
- Surprisingly spacious accommodation
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- 1-4h lounge
- Well equipped fitted kitchen in oven and hob
- Refitted bathroom with shower & separate wc
- Communal gardens and outside store

**£79,950 OFFERS**



**WEDNESFIELD, OFF BROAD LANE SOUTH**  
**BRACKENWOOD DRIVE**

- Immaculately presented modern style detached property
- Beautiful enclosed rear garden with paved patio
- Three bedrooms
- First floor shower room
- Launge and separate dining room
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Gas central heating throughout

**£174,995 OFFERS**



**WEDNESFIELD**  
**BROAD LANE NORTH**

- Pleasantly appointed semi detached property
- Views over local fields to the rear
- Three bedrooms
- 17ft lounge
- Breakfast kitchen
- UPVC double glazing, gas fired central heating
- Family bathroom with white suite & shower over bath
- Enclosed rear garden with paved patio

**£139,950 OFFERS**



**COPPICE FARM**  
**MILES MEADOW CLOSE**

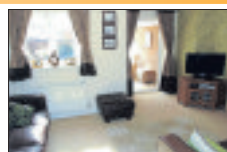
- Pleasantly appointed modern style link detached
- Three bedrooms, master with fitted wardrobes
- UPVC double glazing, gas
- Now offers in excess of £145,000
- Fitted central heating
- Launge and dining room
- Fitted kitchen
- Refitted first floor bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden



**WILLENHALL**  
**PRINCETHORPE ROAD**

- Superbly appointed spacious modern and town house style property
- Three/four bedrooms
- Ground floor lounge/occasional bedroom four
- Splendid UPVC double glazed conservatory
- First floor living room & bedroom with Juliet balcony, dining kitchen with Juliet balcony
- Top floor master bedroom with en-suite bathroom
- Bedroom 2 with wardrobe & en-suite shower room
- Ground floor reception hall with guest cloakroom
- Pleasant rear garden and off road parking. Internal viewing strongly recommended

**£154,995 OFFERS**



**OFF OVERDALE DRIVE, WALSALL**  
**CONDOVER CLOSE**

- Pleasantly appointed semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Two reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen and utility room/study
- Upstairs bathroom with shower
- Enclosed rear garden

**£144,950 NO CHAIN**



**WILLENHALL**  
**ALTON AVENUE**

- Superb double fronted traditional style semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Fitted breakfast kitchen including oven & hob
- Offers in excess of £150,000 NO CHAIN
- Utility room and downstairs w.c.
- Fitted shower room
- Gas central heating & UPVC double glazed windows
- Garage & concrete print driveway
- Generous landscaped rear garden



**SUMMER HAYES**  
**LUDLOW CLOSE**

- Splendidly appointed link detached bungalow set in private drive position
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating, UPVC double glazed windows
- Superb UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Stylish refitted kitchen
- Stunning refitted bathroom with P. shaped spar bath and shower
- Study/office and utility area
- Generous plot with lovely adjacent canal side setting

**£165,000 REDUCED FOR LIMITED PERIOD ONLY**



**NEW INVENTION**  
**STRETTON ROAD**

- Pleasant semi detached property
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Bungalow with French doors to the rear garden
- 19ft dining kitchen
- Side entry, wc and rear store
- Upstairs bathroom with shower
- Established rear garden

**£104,950 IDEAL FIRST TIME PURCHASE**



**COPPICE FARM**  
**BOWNESS GROVE**

- Superb modern detached residence
- Col-de-sac position
- Three generous bedrooms
- Excellent refitted kitchen including oven & hob
- Splendid UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Garage/dedicated site study and accommodation
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows

**£188,500**



**SUMMER HAYES**  
**CASTLE DRIVE**

- Pleasantly appointed detached property
- Beautifully spacious versatile accommodation
- Three first floor bedrooms, downstairs bathroom four
- Launge and dining rooms
- Breakfast kitchen and utility room/WC
- Spacious refitted just and JB bathroom
- 20 tandem length garage
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows

**NOW £169,500 NO CHAIN**

**WANTED**  
BUNGALOWS  
VALUED UP TO  
£150,000 IN ALL  
AREAS FOR  
WAITING  
BUYERS



**ESSINGTON**  
**SNEDY LANE**

- Traditional style detached bungalow
- Much requested location
- Potential to extend (subject to planning permission)
- Two bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- UPVC double glazing, gas central heating
- Two garages, ample gated off road parking
- Established front and rear gardens

**£257,500 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



**HADLEY HEATH, WILLENHALL**  
**FAWLEY CLOSE**

- Pleasant improved modern style semi
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Launge with feature fireplace
- Fitted bathroom with shower
- Carport with double doors to the front
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Attractive enclosed rear garden

**£106,500**



**WILLENHALL**  
**WEDNESFIELD ROAD**

- Pleasantly appointed Victorian style and
- Fitted kitchen and downstairs cloakroom
- Generous rear garden
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Ideal first time purchase

**NOW £79,950 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



**COPPICE FARM**  
**BUTTERMERE GROVE**

- Pleasantly appointed town house style property
- Two bedrooms
- Gas fired central heating
- UPVC double glazing
- Fitted dining kitchen with integrated oven, hob & pantry
- Refitted bathroom with shower over the bath
- Enclosed rear garden with paved patio
- Off road parking

**£114,950**



**NEW INVENTION**  
**WRIGHTON CLOSE**

- Pleasantly appointed extended semi detached residence
- Extended to be near at ground floor level
- Three bedrooms
- 24ft extended lounge and separate dining/living room
- 19ft extended dining kitchen including oven and hob
- Study/office
- Double length garage with utility area
- Large enclosed rear garden with paved patio
- UPVC double glazed windows

**£137,000 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



**SUMMER HAYES**  
**PERRY HALL DRIVE**

- Deceptively spacious semi detached property
- 2 1/2 bedrooms (occasional 4th bed off bathroom)
- Refitted kitchen with integrated appliances
- Refitted bathroom with separate shower
- UPVC double glazing, gas central heating
- Double length garage with utility area
- Large enclosed rear garden with paved patio
- Back and off road parking

**NOW OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £155,000**



**ESSINGTON**  
**BUTTERMERE DRIVE**

- A superb extended modern style detached residence
- Four bedrooms, en-suite shower room
- Launge and dining rooms
- Well equipped extended dining kitchen
- Utility room, downstairs guest cloakroom
- Extended study/office
- Lowly established rear garden
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows

**WAS £269,950 NOW £259,500 OFFERS**



**COPPICE FARM**  
**KINGFISHER GROVE**

- Pleasantly appointed modern style detached property
- Three bedrooms, en-suite shower room
- Launge and dining rooms
- Superb UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Fitted kitchen and utility rooms
- Excellent refitted bathroom with shower
- Enclosed rear garden
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows

**£184,500 OFFERS FOR QUICK SALE**



**WILLENHALL**  
**BARMOUTH CLOSE**

- Pleasant semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating system
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Two reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Upstairs bathroom
- Front and rear gardens
- Excellent potential to improve

**£124,995**



**COPPICE FARM**  
**GURNARD CLOSE**

- Pleasantly appointed modern style town house
- Two bedrooms, one with built-in wardrobe
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Launge with feature fireplace
- Fitted dining kitchen
- Fitted bathroom with shower
- Lowly established rear garden
- Side driveway affording off road parking
- Ideal first time purchase

**£114,950**



**COPPICE FARM**  
**KESTREL GROVE**

- Pleasantly appointed modern style semi detached residence
- Two bedrooms, one with built-in wardrobe
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Launge with feature fireplace
- Fitted kitchen inc oven & hob
- Superb UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Fitted bathroom with shower
- Generous rear garden
- Single off road parking

**£130,000 OFFERS, IDEAL FIRST TIME PURCHASE**



**NEW INVENTION**  
**SQUIRES GROVE**

- Well appointed modern style town house
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating, UPVC double glazing
- En-suite shower room
- Fitted dining kitchen including oven and hob
- 17ft front lounge
- Downstairs guest cloakroom with wc
- Enclosed rear garden
- Off road parking to the rear
- Internal viewing recommended

**£136,500 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



**WILLENHALL**  
**HIGH ROAD**

- Spacious modern style detached residence
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Launge and separate dining room
- Fitted breakfast kitchen with selected appliances
- Black paved driveway

**NOW £185,000**



**WILLENHALL**  
**SANDBEDS ROAD**

- Edwardian style detached residence
- Generous plot with parking & two garages
- Four bedrooms, master with en-suite shower
- Dining room and 20ft extended lounge
- Well equipped breakfast kitchen with appliances
- Utility room
- Lowly established rear garden
- Gas central heating, upvc double glazed windows

**WAS £289,950 NOW £279,950**



**DARLASTON**  
**WOLVERHAMPTON STREET**

- Spacious first floor flat in convenient location
- Two bedrooms
- Gas warm air central heating system
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Spacious 14ft lounge
- Kitchen and shower room
- Command entrance with security intercom

**OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £56,000, NO CHAIN**



**NEW INVENTION**  
**TAVERNERS CLOSE**

- Pleasantly appointed modern style semi detached residence
- One bedroom
- En-suite bathroom with shower
- Launge & separate dining/sun room
- Fitted kitchen inc oven & hob
- Pleasant enclosed rear garden
- Off road parking
- Gas central heating, upvc double glazed windows

**£87,950 OFFERS**



**COPPICE FARM**  
**LOCHALSH GROVE**

- Modern style detached family residence
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Launge and dining rooms
- Breakfast kitchen and downstairs wc
- Garage and off road parking
- Generous rear garden
- Gas central heating
- Internal viewing recommended

**£194,500**





### ESSINGTON CRANTOCK CLOSE

- Pleasantly appointed detached family residence
- Four bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Majority UPVC double glazed windows
- 20ft through lounge with feature fireplace
- Separate dining room, 19ft fitted dining kitchen
- Upstairs bathroom with shower
- Lovely established rear garden

**£235,000 VIEWING RECOMMENDED**



### NEW INVENTION GLAMIS ROAD

- Pleasantly appointed link detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Two reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Fitted bathroom with shower
- 28ft side garage, established rear garden

**£164,950 OFFERS**



### WILLENHALL WAITE ROAD

- Pleasant traditional style semi detached property
- Four bedrooms
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Gas central heating
- Two reception rooms
- Kitchen and bathroom
- Generous lawned rear garden
- Good paved driveway to the fore

**£107,950 OFFERS**



### COPPICE FARM HIGHMOOR CLOSE

- Modern style semi detached on generous corner plot
- Potential to extend (subject to planning permission)
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating & UPVC double glazing
- Lounge and breakfast kitchen
- Sun room and conservatory/lean-to
- Upstairs shower room
- Garage with downstairs wc, gardens to front, side & rear

**£124,950 OFFERS, VIEWING RECOMMENDED**



### COPPICE FARM BUTTERMERE GROVE

- Superbly appointed extended modern detached property
- Spacious five bedroom family accommodation
- Two reception rooms
- Office/occasional bedroom 6
- Conservatory
- En-suite shower room
- Excellent fitted bathroom with separate shower
- Well equipped breakfast kitchen

**£289,950 OFFERS, VIEWING ESSENTIAL**



### WILLENHALL CLOTHIER STREET

- Spacious Victorian style and terrace property in convenient location
- Two bedrooms
- Upstairs bathroom
- Two reception rooms
- Kitchen
- Rear garden
- Gas central heating
- Part UPVC double glazed windows
- Ideal first time purchase

**£89,500 NO CHAIN**



### SNEYD PARK RADSTOCK ROAD

- Splendidly appointed improved semi detached house
- Three bedrooms, all with wardrobes
- Gas central heating, UPVC double glazed windows
- Superb refitted breakfast kitchen with oven & hob
- Refitted bathroom with shower
- Lounge and separate dining room
- Loft room with Velux and drop down ladder
- Garage and pleasant garden to the rear

**£149,500 VIEWING ESSENTIAL**



### COPPICE FARM SNOWDON WAY

- Pleasantly appointed extended detached family residence
- Five bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Lounge and dining areas
- Fitted bathroom with shower
- Utility room and downstairs guest cloakroom
- Timber decked and paved rear garden
- Internal viewing strongly recommended

**£215,000**



### COPPICE FARM BUTTERMERE GROVE

- Extended modern style and town house
- Four bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Majority double glazed windows
- Fitted dining kitchen with oven and hob
- Utility room and downstairs wc
- Garage and concrete paved driveway
- No related chain

**£140,000**



### BENTLEY, WALSALL BADER ROAD

- Pleasant improved semi detached property
- Ideal first time purchase
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- 'U' shaped refitted dining kitchen
- Refitted bathroom with shower
- UPVC single glazed windows
- Viewing recommended

**£97,500 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



### WILLENHALL, OFF STROUD AVE LYDNEY CLOSE

- Pleasant extended semi detached property
- Cul-de-sac position
- Four bedrooms
- Gas central heating system
- Double glazed windows
- Two reception rooms
- Refitted kitchen including oven and hob
- Gardens & off road parking

**OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £140,000**



### WILLENHALL ALAMEIN ROAD

- Traditional style town house
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- 19ft fitted dining kitchen
- 16ft through lounge
- Upstairs bathroom
- Generous lawned rear garden

**NOW £96,500 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



### WILLENHALL YALE ROAD

- Well appointed modern style detached property
- Four bedrooms, three with fitted wardrobes
- Pleasant rear garden
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Fitted dining kitchen with oven & hob
- Through reception hall and guest wc
- Garage and black paved driveway
- Pleasant rear garden
- UPVC double glazed windows
- En-suite shower room

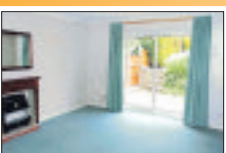
**£230,000**



### COPPICE FARM TORRIDON ROAD

- Pleasant modern style two bedroom bungalow
- Delightful cul-de-sac location
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Lounge with patio doors to the rear garden
- Bathroom with shower
- Enclosed rear garden
- Off road parking to the fore

**NOW OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £115,000, NO CHAIN**



### WILLENHALL HILL ROAD

- Much improved extended three bedroom property
- Lounge and extended dining room
- Fitted breakfast kitchen
- Bathroom with shower
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Convenient location
- Viewing recommended

**£115,000 OFFERS**



### SUMMER HAYES FENN RISE

- Deceptively spacious, link detached bungalow
- Extended to the side elevation
- Three bedrooms and dressing room
- Bedroom 2 currently used as a second lounge
- Majority triple glazed windows
- Gas central heating
- 32ft double length garage
- Lovely established rear garden

**£164,950**



### WEDNESFIELD WORTHY DOWN

- Pleasantly appointed link detached bungalow
- Two bedrooms, one with fitted wardrobes
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- 16ft lounge with feature fireplace
- Two reception rooms and fitted kitchen
- Bathroom with shower, toilet and vanity
- Garage and black paved driveway
- Lowest gardens to front and rear
- Internal viewing recommended

**£149,500 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



### WILLENHALL KNIGHTS CLOSE

- Immaculate modern style five bedroom detached residence
- Master bedroom with dressing area & en-suite
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- 17ft front lounge
- Downstairs guest cloakroom with wc
- Enclosed rear garden
- UPVC double glazed windows

**WAS £225,500 NOW £219,950 OFFERS**



### WILLENHALL FIVE FIELDS ROAD

- Spacious extended traditional style semi detached property
- Popular location
- Three bedrooms and left room
- Two reception rooms
- 20ft extended kitchen
- Bathroom and separate shower room
- Large established rear garden
- Gas central heating, UPVC double glazing

**£179,950 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



### WILLENHALL HILL ROAD

- Much improved extended three bedroom property
- Lounge and extended dining room
- Fitted breakfast kitchen
- Bathroom with shower
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Convenient location
- Viewing recommended

**£115,000 OFFERS**



### SUMMER HAYES FARBROOK WAY

- Pleasant semi detached detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Majority UPVC double glazing
- Lounge and fitted kitchen
- Bathroom with shower
- 26ft side garage, off road parking
- Generous lawned rear garden
- Attractive rear garden

**£130,000 OFFERS**



### ESSINGTON SHERRINGHAM DRIVE

- Pleasantly appointed link detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazing
- Two reception rooms
- Fully fitted refitted shower room
- Tandem garage with electric roller door
- Established lush facing rear garden

**£179,995 OPEN TO OFFERS**



### NEW INVENTION SQUIRES GROVE

- Well appointed modern style town house
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating, UPVC double glazing
- En-suite shower room
- Fitted dining kitchen including oven and hob
- 17ft front lounge
- Downstairs guest cloakroom with wc
- Enclosed rear garden
- UPVC double glazed windows

**£136,500 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**



### WILLENHALL ASHMORE LAKE ROAD

- Conveniently located two bedroom detached bungalow
- In need of some internal modernisation
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Lounge and breakfast kitchen
- UPVC double glazed sun room
- Garage and off road parking
- Pleasant gardens to front and rear

**£100,000 NO CHAIN**



### BENTLEY, WALSALL CUNNINGHAM ROAD

- Pleasantly appointed extended semi detached property
- Three bedrooms, all with wardrobes
- Gas central heating system
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Spacious 19ft through lounge
- Extended sun room
- Breakfast kitchen/utility room
- Upstairs shower room
- Lovely established rear garden
- Ideal for a first time purchaser or a young family

**£110,000 OFFERS, VIEWING RECOMMENDED**



### NEW INVENTION BALMORAL DRIVE

- Pleasantly appointed extended semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Lounge and dining rooms
- Side entry with utility room/foyer area
- Upstairs bathroom with shower/bathtub
- Pleasant established rear garden

**NOW £125,000 OFFERS**

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**Willenhall**  
01902 631151

**Walsall/Bloxwich area**  
01922 689016

**Wednesfield**  
01902 732324

**Tipton**  
0121 520 2255

**Wednesbury**  
0121 505 1818

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# L & S PRESTIGE ESTATES

46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ



 <p><b>CIRCUIT CLOSE, WILLENHALL</b> Ground Floor Studio Apartment Comprising Of Lounge/Bedroom, Kitchen, Shower Room And W/C. The Property Also Benefits From UPVC D/Glazing And Electric Wall Heaters, Allocated Parking.</p> <p><b>£325 PCM</b></p>	 <p><b>VICTORIA STREET, WILLENHALL</b> Two Bed Mid-Terrace Property Comprising Of Two Reception Rooms, Good Sized Breakfast Kitchen With Integrated Appliances, Two Double Bedrooms And A Large Family Bathroom With Shower, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Small Foreground And A Good Sized Rear Garden.</p> <p><b>£475 PCM</b></p>	 <p><b>RUGELEY AVENUE, NEW INVENTION</b> Two Bed Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Large Through Lounge Diner, Extended Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom With Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Small Fore Garden And A Private Enclosed Rear Garden With Brick Built Store.</p> <p><b>£500 PCM</b></p>	 <p><b>WELLINGTON COURT, WILLENHALL</b> Modern Two Bed Townhouse Over Three Floors Comprising Of Groundfloor W/C, Open Plan Kitchen/Diner, First Floor Has A Good Sized Bedroom &amp; Family Bathroom, Second Floor Has Master Bedroom With Walk In Wardrobe, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Garden To The Front, Allocated Parking.</p> <p><b>£500 PCM</b></p>	 <p><b>FURZEBANK WAY, WILLENHALL</b> Three Bed Semi Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Hallway, Good Sized Lounge, Separate Dining Room/Sitting Room, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Front And Rear Gardens, Double Length Driveway, Garage.</p> <p><b>£575 PCM</b></p>	 <p><b>PRINCETHORPE ROAD, WILLENHALL</b> Spacious Three Bedroom Three Storey Modern Town House Having Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Three Generous Bedrooms, Two En-Suites, Shower Room, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Garage And Driveway.</p> <p><b>£625 PCM</b></p>	 <p><b>LODGE STREET, WILLENHALL</b> Modern Three Bed Detached Property Lounge, Modern Kitchen Diner, Three Bedrooms, Master Having An En-suite Shower Room, Family Bathroom With A Jacuzzi Bath, All Bedrooms And Stairs Will Be Fitted With New Carpets, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating.</p> <p><b>£650 PCM</b></p>	 <p><b>NORTON GREEN LANE, NORTON</b> Three Bed Detached Bungalow Having Lounge, Fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Modern Fitted Bathroom With Whirlpool Bath, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Large Frontage Offering Ample Off Road Parking For Several Vehicles And A Good Sized Rear Garden.</p> <p><b>£695 PCM</b></p>
 <p><b>BRERETON RD, NEW INVENTION</b> A Modern And Spacious Second Floor Flat Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Modern Refitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Balcony, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating And Communal Garden. MUST VIEW.</p> <p><b>£69,995</b></p>	 <p><b>RYDAL CLOSE, WEDNESFIELD</b> Well Presented One Bedroom First Floor Maisonette Comprising Of Entrance Hallway/Utility, Dining Area/Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom And Modern Fitted Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Rear Garden.</p> <p><b>£69,995</b></p>	 <p><b>REMINGTON ROAD, BEECHDALE</b> Large Three Bedroom Mid Terrace, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Front And Rear Gardens. Ideal Buy To Let Or First Time Buy.</p> <p><b>£79,950 ONO</b></p>	 <p><b>LOWE AVENUE, DARLASTON</b> End Terraced Property Having Lounge, Spacious Kitchen/Diner, Groundfloor W/C, Study, Three Bedrooms, Modern Fitted Bathroom With Separate Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating Rear Garden &amp; Driveway.</p> <p><b>£84,995</b></p>	 <p><b>WESTERN AVENUE, BENTLEY</b> Three Bedroom Mid Terrace Property. The Property Comprises Of Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Room, Downstairs WC, Three Bedrooms And A Family Bathroom. The Property Also Benefits From Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating.</p> <p><b>£84,995</b></p>	 <p><b>BENTLEY LANE, WILLENHALL</b> A Three Bedroom Semi-Detached Property In Need Of Some Modernisation. Comprising Of Lounge, Spacious Kitchen Diner, Rear Lean To, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Garage, Majority Double Glazing, Central Heating And Driveway.</p> <p><b>£89,995</b></p>	 <p><b>SQUIRES GROVE, WILLENHALL</b> Well Presented Modern First Floor Apartment In A Sought After Location, Two Bedrooms, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, En-Suite, Electric Heating, D/Glazing, UPVC D/Glazing, Allocated Parking.</p> <p><b>£89,995</b></p>	 <p><b>KING EDWARD STREET, DARLASTON</b> Well Presented Two Bed Mid Terrace, Two Reception Rooms, Extended Fitted Bathroom With Whirlpool Bath, Ground Floor Bathroom, Two Double Bedrooms, First Floor W.C., UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Private Rear Garden.</p> <p><b>£87,995</b></p>
 <p><b>STAFFORD ROAD, DARLASTON</b> New Build Two Bed Semi, Spacious Lounge/Reception Area, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor WC, First Floor Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Off Road Parking, Rear Garden, Ideal First Time Buy, Two Available.</p> <p><b>£89,995</b></p>	 <p><b>LATIMER STREET, WILLENHALL</b> Spacious Semi Detached Property Located Close To Willenhall Town Centre. The Property Comprises Of Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Area, Downstairs W.C., Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Detached Garage &amp; Generous Garden.</p> <p><b>£92,995 ONO</b></p>	 <p><b>RUDGE CLOSE, WILLENHALL</b> Well Presented And Extended Three Bed Mid Townhouse Having UPVC Entrance Porch, Modern Fitted Kitchen Diner, Two Reception Rooms, Three Bedrooms And Shower Room, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Enclosed Rear Garden.</p> <p><b>£99,500</b></p>	 <p><b>KENNEDY CRESCENT, DARLASTON</b> Well Presented Three Bed Semi Having Lounge, Spacious Kitchen/Diner, Downstairs Bathroom, Three Good Sized Bedrooms, Upstairs W.C., UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating And Off Road Parking.</p> <p><b>£99,995 ONO</b></p>	 <p><b>DEVON ROAD, WILLENHALL</b> Immaculately Presented Two Bed Semi, Spacious Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Luxury Fitted Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Off Road Parking, Great First Time Buy, Must View.</p> <p><b>£104,995</b></p>	 <p><b>CHATSWORTH CLOSE, WILLENHALL</b> Well Presented Modern Two Bed Semi Having Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom With Jacuzzi Bath, Detached Garage, Driveway, UPVC Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating.</p> <p><b>£115,995</b></p>	 <p><b>LICHFIELD RD, WEDNESFIELD</b> Traditional Three Terraced Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Open Plan Kitchen Diner/Sitting Room, Conservatory, Spacious Bathroom And Three Good Sized Bedrooms, C/Heating, UPVC D/Glazing.</p> <p><b>£117,995</b></p>	 <p><b>STUBBY LANE, WEDNESFIELD</b> Well Presented Three Bed Traditional Semi, Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Double Length Driveway, Large Rear Garden, Popular Location.</p> <p><b>£119,995</b></p>
 <p><b>QUEENS LEA, WILLENHALL</b> Immaculately Presented Extended Property Having Spacious Lounge, Refitted Kitchen Opening Into Large Utility/Diner, Groundfloor W.C., Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Enclosed Rear Garden And Tarmac Driveway.</p> <p><b>£124,995</b></p>	 <p><b>CHATSWORTH CL, WILLENHALL</b> Immaculately Presented Extended Three Bed End Terrace, Spacious Through Lounge, Open Plan Breakfast Kitchen/Diner, Utility, Groundfloor W.C., Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, C/Heating, Off Road Parking, Enclosed Rear Garden And Off Road Parking.</p> <p><b>£124,995</b></p>	 <p><b>RADSTOCK RD, NEW INVENTION</b> Two Bed Semi, Having Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen With Breakfast Bar, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Detached Garage, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Off Road Parking, Sought After Location.</p> <p><b>£129,995</b></p>	 <p><b>WILLENHALL STREET, DARLASTON</b> Well Presented Four Bedroom Extended Semi, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Utility Area, W.C., Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Block Paved Driveway, Garage.</p> <p><b>£134,995</b></p>	 <p><b>LICHFIELD RD, NEW INVENTION</b> Two/Three Bed Much Improved Semi Detached Having Lounge, Spacious Modern Breakfast Kitchen, Utility, Groundfloor W.C., Groundfloor W.C., Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating And Creteprint Driveway.</p> <p><b>£139,995</b></p>	 <p><b>RADSTOCK RD, NEW INVENTION</b> Three Bedroom Semi, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, Two Reception Rooms, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Crete Print Driveway, Garage.</p> <p><b>£142,000</b></p>	 <p><b>JOHN RILEY DRIVE, WILLENHALL</b> Well Presented Detached Property, Having Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Garage And Gardens. The Property Also Benefits From C/Heating And D/Glazing.</p> <p><b>£147,500</b></p>	 <p><b>ADA WRIGHTON CL, NEW INV</b> Immaculately Presented Three Bed Link Detached Having Entrance Hallway, Downstairs W.C., Large Through Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Three Bedrooms, Shower Room And Garage (storage only), UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating And A Full Width Driveway.</p> <p><b>£147,995</b></p>
 <p><b>CANNOCK RD, NEW INVENTION</b> Detached Property Having Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Three Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom, Garage And Large Gardens. The Property Also Benefits From C/Heating And D/Glazing.</p> <p><b>£149,950</b></p>	 <p><b>HARPER STREET, WILLENHALL</b> A Modern Three Storey Three Bed Townhouse Having Fitted Kitchen, Groundfloor W.C., Spacious Lounge, Two Bedrooms And Shower Room To The First Floor, Master Bedroom And Large Bathroom On The Second Floor, C/Heating &amp; D/Glazing, Garage.</p> <p><b>£149,995</b></p>	 <p><b>PRINCETHORPE RD, WILLENHALL</b> Spacious Three Bedroom Three Storey Modern Town House Having Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Three Generous Bedrooms, Two En-Suites, Shower Room, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Garage And Driveway.</p> <p><b>£150,000</b></p>	 <p><b>SANDRINGHAM AVE, WILLENHALL</b> Detached House Having Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Spacious Lounge, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Area, Groundfloor W.C., Three Generous Bedrooms, Loft Room, Family Bathroom, Integral Garage, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Driveway, App 2000 Rear Garden.</p> <p><b>£172,000</b></p>	 <p><b>COPPICE LANE, SHORT HEATH</b> Immaculately Presented Deceptively Spacious, Detached Bungalow Having Lounge, Large Conservatory, Refitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Landscaped Rear Garden Large Block Paved Driveway, MUST VIEW.</p> <p><b>£179,995</b></p>	 <p><b>DINGLE LANE, WILLENHALL</b> Three Bed Detached Property Having Porch, Two Reception Rooms, Galley Style Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Driveway &amp; App 160ft Private Rear Garden.</p> <p><b>£179,995</b></p>	 <p><b>AMPLEFORTH DRIVE, WILLENHALL</b> A Detached Four Bedroom With Entrance Hall, Breakfast Kitchen, Utility Area, Separate WC, Lounge, Dining Area, Conservatory, Bathroom, En-Suite, Garage, Driveway, Rear Garden.</p> <p><b>£209,995 ONO</b></p>	 <p><b>NORTON GREEN LANE, CANNOCK</b> Well Presented Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow Having Lounge, Fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Modern Fitted Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Good Sized Rear Garden, Large Frontage.</p> <p><b>£219,995</b></p>
 <p><b>FIVE FIELDS ROAD, WILLENHALL</b> ... OPEN VIEWING... SAT 15/09/12 12pm-3pm SUN 16/09/12 11am-1pm Refurbished Three Bed Semi, Two Reception Rooms, Refitted Kitchen &amp; Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage, Driveway</p> <p><b>£155,995</b></p>	 <p><b>SNEYD LANE, ESSINGTON</b> Three Bed Detached Property, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Rooms, Ground Floor WC, Re-Fitted Family Bathroom, Part DG, GCH, Two Garages, Substantial Plot, Planning Pending For Five Bed Extension.</p> <p><b>£279,950</b></p>	 <p><b>COPPICE OAK, WILLENHALL</b> Five/Six Bedroom Executive Detached. Comprising Of Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Study (Bedroom 6) Five Bedrooms, En-Suite, Family Bathroom. Also Benefitting From C/Heating D/Glazing, Double Garage, Driveway And Generous Garden. Private Gated Access.</p> <p><b>£335,000 ONO</b></p>	 <p><b>MILL LANE, WILLENHALL</b> Spacious Detached Bungalow Having Larger Than Average Room Sizes And Comprises Of Entrance Porch, Spacious Entrance Hallway, 21ft Lounge, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Four Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, And Guest Cloakroom, Garage, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Block Paved Driveway.</p> <p><b>£235,000</b></p>				

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The Austin Mini was launched in 1959 and 5.4 million vehicles were sold over 41 years

# Iconic Mini is voted the best car made in Britain

THE original Mini has been voted the greatest British car ever made in a poll by Autocar readers.

The Mini beat opposition from the original Range Rover, which was launched in 1970, and the Jaguar E-Type, which was launched in 1961 and drew votes on the grounds of beauty, function and value.

The Austin Mini was launched in

1959 and notched up 5.4 million sales during its 41-year lifetime. Autocar's editor-in-chief Steve Cropley says: "The Mini had many faults and was never profitable, but it rewrote the rules and had the biggest impact on Britain's car industry that any car has had. It was one of the most remarkable cars ever built, what with its seating for four plus a decent boot in its mere 10ft length, revolutionary drive-train and gearbox and its ultra-compact su-

pension." The poll was conducted to coincide with the announcement that Britain's car manufacturing output is set to eclipse its highest levels by 2015, thanks to massive investment from car makers in the country.

In total, more than two million cars are expected to be built in Britain in 2015, according to figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers - more than the 1.92 million made in Britain's car-making heyday in 1970.

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On The Road Price (Cash price)	Credit Acceptance Fee	£125
Customer Deposit	Total Amount Payable	£28,766.79
Deposit including £1,500 contribution	Interest Rate per Annum	6.05%
Final Payment (inc Option to Purchase Fee)	Representative APR	6.9%

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Model shown: Jazz 1.4i VTEC SE Manual in Alabaster Silver Metallic at £14,200 including metallic paint. Terms and Conditions: New retail Jazz and Jazz Hybrid registrations (excluding Jazz Si) from 2 July to 30 September 2012. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Honda Aspirations (PCP): Example shown based on annual mileage of 10,000. Excess mileage charge: 5p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage of 10,000 has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. \*On The Road price includes metallic paint. Model shown: CR-V 2.0i VTEC EX Manual in Alabaster Silver Metallic at £26,020 On The Road including metallic paint and saving of £2,520 on retail On The Road price. Terms & Conditions: New retail CR-V registrations from 2 July to 30 September 2012. Offers applicable at participating Dealers and are at the Promoter's absolute discretion. Complimentary upgrade: CR-V EX models available for the On The Road price of equivalent ES-T model - discount of £2,520 inc VAT will be applied to retail invoice. Honda Aspirations (PCP): Example shown based on annual mileage of 10,000. Excess mileage charge: 5p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage of 10,000 has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. \*On The Road price includes metallic paint. CALLS CHARGED AT LOCAL RATE.



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The new Toyota Auris has seen major changes, including body styling and the car's interior

## New-look Toyota to be unveiled at Paris show

**TOYOTA will give the new Auris its first public appearance at the Paris Motor Show.**

The most obvious change is the updated styling, including Toyota's new 'face' and more angular rear lights, which look very much like the units on the Hyundai i30.

The Auris has come in for criticism over its life but the new model aims to change that with a much-improved interior, sharper styling and a more cleverly packaged interior.

A Toyota insider was quoted as saying the new model's interior look, feel and outright quality is a 'quantum

leap' ahead of the outgoing one.

To make the new cabin feel much more upmarket than before, Toyota has paid special attention to the 'sensory quality' of the cabin and has worked in tiny detail to achieve a sense of visual unity by using consistent lighting, colours and finishes.

Full hybrid, diesel and petrol versions of the Derbyshire-built car will be produced, with the spread of the range expected to be broadly similar to the current line-up. Expect a choice including a 1.4-litre diesel, a 1.3-litre petrol and a 1.6-litre petrol.

Weight management has been a key part of Toyota's development of the

Auris, and unnecessary bulk has been cut out at every chance to reduce the car's weight by around 40kg depending on the model.

To enhance efficiency, special attention has been paid to aerodynamics.

A 55mm reduction in the height of the all-new bodyside helps achieve a low drag coefficient of 0.28; excellent for the class and down from 0.29 for the Auris it replaces.

On-sale dates, UK prices and full specifications will be released at an as-yet unspecified date after the Paris show.

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The BMW X3 is now available in rear-wheel-drive – the sDrive18d costs £28,580 for the entry level

## Rear-wheel-drive model of BMW sports utility vehicle

BMW's X3 medium-sized SUV is now available in rear-wheel-drive's Drive18d guise, with a lower price, a lower CO2 output and higher fuel economy than ever before.

Until now, the X3 had been available only in 'xDrive' four-wheel-drive form, but the new arrival gives buyers a more frugal and more accessible option if the benefits of four driven wheels don't apply to them.

The well-known 141bhp, 266lb/ft diesel engine can be mated to a six-

speed manual or an eight-speed automatic gearbox, with CO2 and economy figures for the manual recorded at 135g/km and 55.4mpg; 14g/km and 4mpg better than the more powerful xDrive20d.

Priced at £28,580 on the road, the entry-level sDrive18d undercuts the existing range by nearly £3,000 and is likely to be especially popular with fleet buyers.

It will slot into the base of the range but will conform to its predefined norms, being made available in SE and M Sport trim lines.

Apart from Hill Descent Control,

which is only available for four-wheel-drive X3 models, the new model matches the xDrive20d's kit list in all areas.

SE models feature engine stop-start technology, Drive Performance Control, 17in alloy wheels, Nevada leather upholstery and BMW iDrive with a 6.5in colour screen.

M Sport models have a host of sporty additions, such as 18in alloy wheels, M Sport bodywork, sports seats and sports suspension.

The sDrive18d is the fourth diesel model in the X3 range, alongside the xDrive20d, 30d and 35d.

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The new Volvo V40 received a top rating of five stars in the NCAP test

## New Volvo sets record in Euro NCAP collision test

**THE** all-new Volvo V40 has received the top rating of five stars in the Euro NCAP collision test. The overall result is the best ever recorded by the institute.

"A fantastic result. We are very proud to have one of the world's safest cars and we're taking yet another important step toward our 2020 target – that nobody should die or be seriously injured in a new Volvo," says Thomas Broberg, senior technical advisor safety at Volvo Car Corporation.

As of 2009, European safety institute Euro NCAP has presented an overall rating for each car model whose safety it tests. Separate tests are carried out in four different sub-categories, which are then ranked to

produce an overall grade. The four categories are adult occupant protection, child protection, pedestrian protection and safety assist.

It is not only the overall result that is a record-high. The all-new Volvo V40's protection for adults was also the best result ever recorded in a test, no less than 98 per cent.

During the development of the all-new Volvo V40, the goal was to build in the same safety level as in larger cars. The holistic approach, a strong structure and systems such as the WHIPS whiplash protection system form the basis for the excellent result.

In the safety assist category, the Volvo V40 scores maximum points.

"The new Volvo V40 was launched as the most intelligent and the safest car in its segment, and it is truly packed with active safety systems such as auto

brake, Pedestrian Detection to shield pedestrians, Lane Keeping Aid which helps the driver stay within his or her lane, and BLIS which helps the driver detect vehicles in the offset rear 'blind spot'," says Thomas Broberg.

In the pedestrian protection category too, the Volvo V40 sets a new record. One important factor here is the innovative, unique pedestrian airbag. Sensors in the front of the car detect any contact with a pedestrian.

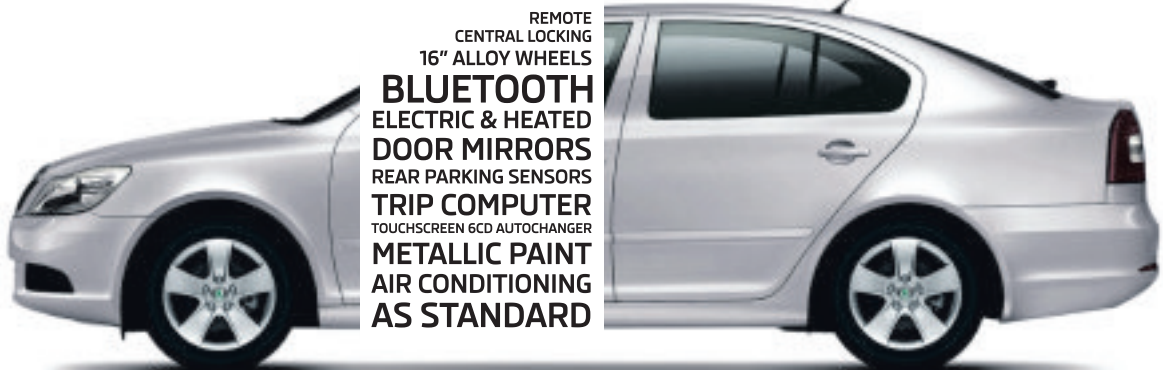
A pyrotechnical charge releases the bonnet hinges and elevates the bonnet with the help of an airbag.

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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Octavia SE Connect 1.6 TDI CR 105PS: Urban 49.6 (5.7), Extra Urban 72.4 (3.9), Combined 62.8 (4.5). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Octavia SE Connect 1.6 TDI CR 105PS 119g/km.

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# Sometimes it's better to take the soft option

**IF all those numbers finally come up and the lottery winnings are secure in the bank account, one of the first things most people would look to do would be buy a new car.**

What about suggesting a car for every day of the week because it does appear that this is now possible with the latest incarnation of the Mini Series, writes Bob Hickman.

The new Mini Roadster isn't just a convertible, because Mini already has a four-seater convertible. No, the new Mini Cooper cabriolet is based on the coupe version but it now has the benefit of a soft top which can be stored away for open-top motoring.

This, however, is where convention changes in that this Mini is a pure two-seater, it has lost the two back seats. There isn't even space to put a small child behind the seat, you may be lucky to put a coat or a jumper but that is about it. This is competition for, dare I say it, the ubiquitous Mazda MX-5, even the Audi TT, or other pure two-seater small cars.

Mini has attempted to change the looks of this vehicle to tempt more buyers. After all, when you already have a Mini convertible, you need something slightly different to make people change, and it does have a more stylish look. The roof is lower and the front windscreen is extremely rakish. One big advantage this new vehicle has over its sibling is the fact that it has a very useable boot.

To lower the cabriolet roof you undip a catch at the front and lift it up and then an electric motor takes it away. This could be an issue for some people. My wife, who is the strongest of people, had difficulty twisting the mechanism and certainly more difficulty pushing the mechanism up before the electric took over. That said, once the roof was stored it was a delightful vehicle to drive and to appreciate the joys of open-top motoring.

## Blind spots

I was not keen on the roof-up driving mode, there are an enormous amount of blind spots at the rear, made worse because you don't have the two rear side windows that the four-seater convertible has. However, with the aid of rear parking sensors and time to adapt and be careful when reversing, I suppose I could live with this.

The new cabriolet is available with three petrol engines with a choice of either 121bhp, or 181bhp in the Cooper S which was my test vehicle. This has an alleged top speed of 141mph and a CO2 emissions figure of 139g/km so it is never going to be in the cheap tax bracket. There is also the fire-breathing 208bhp in the John Cooper Works Special. There will be a two-litre diesel available, but I suspect the Cooper S will be one of the best sellers and it is quite easy to understand why.

The power and the joy of driving this vehicle heralds a return to the days of the hot-hatch, it really is a rewarding vehicle, certainly the gear ratios are perfect and the vehicle eagerly leapt forward no matter which gear was chosen.

But the chassis is extremely taut and on anything other than a reasonably good surface you feel the jolts and jars. It is a very firm ride and I don't really understand why. I have been in thousands of vehicles that handle superbly without this taut, tight suspension.

The driving dynamics are superb, think go-kart if you have ever had the privilege of taking one round the track and you begin to appreciate what the little Mini is like. It holds the road extremely well and at all times the steering was rewarding.

There is some bluster and wind noise when the roof is in the down mode, but that is part of the joy of open-top motoring.

From an interior point of view the dashboard is what you expect on a Mini. The huge dial in the middle has creeping graphics that sneak around telling you how fast you are going. I love the interior lights that give an ambient feel and change colour as you are meandering along your way.

I do not like the switchgear on Minis, I never have done. There is a plethora of 'toggle switches' and you need to put on your glasses to see what each one does - they are over complicated.

Out of the two options, the coupe or the convertible, I prefer the convertible. I always think that the coupe looks as if it should be a tin-top convertible, it looks squat whereas this little two-seater Roadster is a gem, and with prices starting at £18,020 I am convinced that yet another Mini success story is being written.



The Mini Cooper Roadster - competition for the Mazda MX-5 and Audi TT



The Roadster is based on the coupe version. Prices start from £18,020

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\*Not Available on Expression, ES, Vauxhall Tech Line models, Ampera or VXR8. \*\* Vauxhall Deposit Contribution not available on Corsa SXi or Mokka. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee or indemnity may be required. Finance supplied by either Vauxhall Motor Finance RH1 1SR or Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Offer applies to private individuals. Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 1 October 2012. †Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply.





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**public & legal**  
**notices**

**Town and Country Planning (Development**  
**Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010**

**NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 11 OF**  
**APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**  
**FOR HOUSEHOLD DEVELOPMENT**

Proposed development at:-  
Edward Street, Walsall, WS10 9SP 1 to 55 Odd No's  
Walsall Road, Walsall, WS10 9SW 191 to 225 Odd no's and  
196 to 230 even No's

Wolverhampton Road, WS2 8PP/8RQ 140 to 278 Even No's  
Dalketh Street, Walsall WS2 8QA 2 to 144 and 7 to 109a  
Jessel Road, Walsall, WS2 8QU/QX 2 to 88 Even No's and 1 to 21 Odd No's  
Raleigh Street, Walsall, WS2 8QY/QZ/RA 2 to 58 Even No's and  
1 to 119 Odd No's

Pargeter Street, Walsall, WS2 8RR 2 to 116 Even No's and  
1 to 91 Odd No's  
Pargeter Street, Walsall, WS2 8RQ/RS 118-196 Even No's and 105 to 203  
Miner Street, Walsall, WS2 8QL/QN 16 to 146 Even No's and  
1 to 125 Odd No's

Reedwood Lane, Walsall, WS2 8RQ, 22 to 96 Even No's and  
29a to 35, 91 to 97 Odd No's  
Reedwood Gardens, Walsall, WS2 8RD 19 to 36 consecutive  
Cairn Street, Walsall, WS2 8QT, 14 to 54 Even No's and 1 to 67 Odd No's  
Bentley Lane, Walsall, WS2 8SR/SS/ST 6 to 120 Even No's and  
35 to 131 Odd No's

Derby Street, Walsall, WS2 7BH 1 to 27 Odd No's  
Whitehall Street, Walsall, WS1 4AR 8 to 78 Even No's and  
15 to 93 odd No's  
2 Villiers Street, Walsall, WS1 4AW

Permission to: Apply External Wall Insulation System, comprising  
mechanically-fixed phenolic, PIR-modified urethane, expanded  
polystyrene (EPS) or mineral wool insulation with a glassfibre  
reinforced render coat and render finish.

Any owner\* or tenant\*\* who wishes to make representations about  
this application should write to the Council at: Planning and Building  
Control, The Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG

By 4th of October 2012 (Date giving a period of 21 days beginning with  
the date of service, or 14 days beginning with the date of publication,  
of the notice (as the case may be))

In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to  
refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and  
that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the  
written representations procedure, any representations made by the  
owner\* or tenant\*\* to the Council about this application will be passed to  
the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further  
representations. Any owner or tenant wishing to make representations  
should do so at the earliest opportunity.

\* "owner" means a person having a freehold interest or a leasehold  
interest the unexpired term of which is not less than seven years.  
\*\* "tenant" means a tenant of an agricultural holding any part of which  
is comprised in the land.

Signed: Act on Carbon Ltd  
Date: 14 September 2012

Statement of owners' rights The grant of planning permission does not  
affect owners' rights to retain or dispose of their property unless there is  
some provision to the contrary in an agreement or in a lease.

Statement of agricultural tenants' rights The grant of planning  
permission for non-agricultural development may affect agricultural  
tenants' security of tenure.

"Householder development" means development of an existing  
dwellinghouse, or development within the curtilage of such a  
dwellinghouse, for any purpose incidental to the enjoyment of the  
dwellinghouse. It does not include a change of use or a change to the  
number of dwellings in a building.

This application does not mean you will be receiving the works. You must  
phone Act on Carbon Ltd on 01246 573483 to request a survey. It does  
however mean you may be entitled to have this work carried out free of  
charge if you apply within the next 31 days. It is not means tested.

**Walsall Council,**  
**Planning and Building Control**

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council.  
Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall  
or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning

Representations can be made online, email: planning@walsall.gov.uk  
or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre,  
Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made  
within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Please note: Your letter and personal details will form part of the  
planning file which is a public document and will be available for  
inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released  
as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

**Town and Country Planning Act 1990.**  
**Town and Country Planning (General Development**  
**Procedure) Order 1995**

**12/1040/OL**  
Mr Chris Harris  
Outline application for two detached dwellings and associated car  
parking, access, layout and scale for consideration  
AT: BUILDERS MERCHANT YARD, GREEN LANE, ALDRIDGE,  
WALSALL, WS9 0LN

**THE APPLICATION MARKED \* DOES NOT ACCORD WITH THE**  
**PROVISIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE AREA**

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pas, stereo, CD, petrol,  
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32k, black, petrol, air con, alloy  
discs, £2,995 ono. 07547 996528  
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07956 854210  
07848 990009.

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Discovery Tdi 2001, 108,428  
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condition - just been  
valued  
£3,400  
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abs, fsh, MoT, central locking, tax,  
alloys, CD, leather interior.  
Hardtop included worth £400.  
£2,800 ono. 07584 798495

**MINI CUPPER S**  
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\* The "from" price and price bands vary for each show  
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Arranged by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

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(please include your name and address) or go to  
[expressandstar.com/starextratravel](http://expressandstar.com/starextratravel)

Please read brochure/web page for full information  
plus terms and conditions

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## Hat-trick hero takes plaudits for Wood

**Atherstone Town 0 Walsall Wood 3**  
WALSALL WOOD took all three points – but the plaudits went to Lewis Taylor Boyce with a hat-trick at a venue that will be hard to get points from this season.

Wood put the home defence under pressure right from the start of the Midland Combination Premier clash.

After five minutes Corey Currithers played a right-wing one-two with Craig Deakin before laying the ball back into the path of Drew Aiton to hit a first-time effort just too high.

Wood keeper Dale Faultless made an incredible one-handed save from a Mark Latham shot four minutes later.

Taylor Boyce went close with two efforts just before half-time, but had to wait just two minutes into the second half for a breakthrough.

He cleverly turned two defenders and gave Atherstone keeper Carl O'Neill no chance at all with a clinical finish.

On 53 minutes a Shaun Boote back pass was hit forward by keeper Faultless, and Taylor Boyce collected and flicked header to calmly slot the ball past O'Neill.

Three minutes into injury time, Taylor Boyce completed his treble.

Scott Cooper cleverly found Torgut Bilgimer, who raced into the left of the box and was brought down.

Up stepped Taylor Boyce to seal his hat-trick from the penalty spot.

**Walsall Wood:** Faultless, Deakin, Rook, Boote, Stretton, Owen, Currithers, Hawkins, Taylor Boyce, Aiton, Gonzales. **Subs:** Bligimer, Murray, Howard, Cooper, Juxon.

## Football results

**Lichfield & Walsall District**  
**Ask Motors Premier:** Burntwood 1: ASP Victoria 1; Burntwood Star 1; Erdington Star 0; Lichfield Social A 2; Pelsall Villa Colts 3.  
**Rio Driving Tuition League 1:** Lichfield Social B 0; Bush 7; Park Tavern 3; Red Lion Aldridge 1; Stonnall 1; Prince of Wales 18.  
**Stretton Paving League 2:** Kress 1; Hussey Arms 2; Burntwood 3; Cannock Wood 1; Lichfield DC 1; Paradise Lounge 14; Rushall 2; Trent Valley Rvrs 0; Trident 1; AC Lions 2.  
**Computa-Tec League 3:** Burntwood Dragons B 3; Cellar Door 2; Dosthill Rvrs 0; Chase Terrace Victoria 8; Duke of Wellington 1; Shire Oak Saints Warriors 2; Green Rock Tavern 5; Bowman 1; Pheasey Ath 4; Railway Tavern 1; Shire Oak 1; Freemans B 1.  
**Jack Donnelly Cup Round 2:** Brownhills Community Colts 2; Longdon Chet 4.

# Late points confirm visitors' domination

## Camp Hill 10 Walsall 34

A LATE run of points confirmed Walsall's victory in this Midlands One West game.

The visitors dominated for long periods, but found it difficult to convert their pressure into points. They were only 15-10 up with 10 minutes left but finished strongly to score three tries during the final period.

Walsall started well but a combination of good defence and wayward passing resulted in opportunities being missed. The hosts, however, were frequently guilty of transgressing in the tackle area and Matty Wood

opened the scoring with a 30-metre penalty. The lead was short-lived as the visitors conceded a silly offside penalty in front of their own posts. Robinson converted the easy kick to make it 3-3.

The first try came from a Walsall counter attack that covered 70 metres. Rod Dickson gathered for a touchdown which was converted by Wood.

The hosts got themselves back in the match when flanker Bowles pounced on some poor Walsall lineup play to cross near the

corner flag. Robinson's well-struck conversion levelled the scores.

The visitors worked hard during the closing stages of the first half and were rewarded with a score by lock forward Alex Hawthorn, the former England Under-16 international.

During most of the second half Walsall created several more scoring opportunities, but again failed to deliver the final pass or possession was lost at crucial moments. But the final 10 minutes

was a complete contrast. Even after No.8 Rod Dickson was forced off at half time through injury, his replacement Geoffrey Williamson proved to be a dynamic force. He was involved in the next try, scored by Daniel Simpson and converted by Wood. Two minutes later, Paul Naylor crossed for a bonus point try near the corner flag.

The final move of the match saw Walsall full-back Chris Mould dart in for a try from 15 metres. Outside-half Wood completed the scoring with a conversion.

This Saturday unbeaten Walsall face unbeaten Lichfield at Delves

Road. The game kicks off at 3pm.

Walsall's second team made a pleasing start to their campaign in the Western Reserves League. Last year's success ensured promotion to this tough league, and the management will be delighted with the 48-3 win over Bournville seconds.

Last year's first-team regular Andy Fitzgerald scored two tries in his first game since recovering from injury. Scrum-half Mike Tibbetts also crossed for two and there was a try each for Neil Pittaway, Jimmy Scott, Ed Mott and Jamie Hickman. Jack Crowhurst added four conversions

## Rushall Olympic sent out of FA Cup

**Bridgnorth Town 3 Rushall Olympic 1**  
RUSHALL OLYMPIC were dumped out of the FA Cup by Midland Alliance outfit Bridgnorth Town at the Crown Meadow.

Liam Boote's opener was cancelled out by Lei Brown's equaliser – but Town then kicked on with a vengeance.

Further goals came from Ryan Gurny and Kevin Buxton to seal their place in the next round.

After just 11 minutes, Bridgnorth striker Anwar Olughbon beat Gavin Caines to progress through in to the right side of the box, but the front runner's low ball across the face of goal was ultimately gathered by goalkeeper Chris Gemmell.

Bridgnorth led in the 26th minute via Liam Boote.

But, a minute before the break, the Pics got themselves out of jail with a Brown goal. But Bridgnorth continued to take the game to their higher-ranked visitors and, in the 63rd minute, went ahead again.

Pics captain Wayne Daniel provided a towering header at a corner but the ball was repelled by goalkeeper Chris Crook.

In the 76th minute, Keenan's deep centre caused problems within the home penalty area and, as the ball bobbed around, a close range header by Daniel was directed straight into the grateful grasp of Crook.

With time running out, Rushall substitute Martyn Naylor delivered a corner from the left that was met by a flicked header from Daniel that went agonisingly wide.

And, with five minutes left, the tie was well and truly over when Town again caught their opponents short through the channels.

They countered down the visitors' left hand side, from where the ball was centred to the far post and the unmarked Buxton, who rifled in past Gemmell.

**Gunners U13 0 Legion Lions U13 7**  
THE Lions made a roaring start to the season with a big victory in the Walsall Junior Youth League.

Kian Dwyer and Ljay Campbell scored twice apiece and there were strikes from Josh Toye, Ellis Greatrix and Bradley Richardson. Keeper Jack Callan did well.

# Optimism returning for Saddlers faithful

## Walsall 1 MK Dons 0

**SADDLERS fans are breaking out the dictionaries to find a word they haven't used for a while.**

That word which has been on the tip of their tongues but has disappeared almost as quickly as it arrived, *writes Nick Mashiter*.

It's been there, lurking in the background, almost taunting the club because they have been so close to earning the right to use it under Dean Smith.

And Saturday's 1-0 win over Milton Keynes Dons offered more evidence it is coming back. The word? Optimism.

Guts, gumption and a goal – from Dean Holden – continued the rosy start to the season.

It has taken almost two years under Smith to get to a stage where fans have reasons to be cheerful. That is down to hard work. Smith may have tinkered but he hasn't changed his philosophy since day one.

### Caution

Now, after being granted the proper amount of time, his labours may be about to bear serious fruit.

But it is worth noting they had an identical start to last season – two wins, two draws and a defeat – before dramatically falling away into a relegation battle that they again survived. There was hope then, just as there is now, so the Saddlers tread with caution laced in their boots.

Too often has there been a false dawn and no-one is yet proclaiming this team to be the real thing. It's just nice to be able to bask in a bit of the dawn's glow.

The manager will be tired to hear he is working with a restricted budget but on his pennies and pounds he has moulded a squad which has potential.

James Baxendale, on his full debut, and Nicky Featherstone were effective in midfield while right-back Ben Purkiss has



Midfield action as Walsall look to preserve their 1-0 advantage



George Bowerman challenges keeper David Martin

already impressed. With them Smith has experience where it counts. They are not 'golden oldies' yet but the elder statesmen of the group, Andy Butler and Holden, led by example. The duo are a relatively new centre-back pairing but were imperious against the Dons.

Holden scored the winner but victory was built from the back. There was no repeat of the late collapse which saw Brentford snatch a draw last week.

Holden admitted afterwards the pair are 'old school' and are happy to do the dirty work while those in front of them turn on the style.

It matters not if they don't possess the finesse others do, they are there to defend and did it in their own indefatigable way. They helped reduce the perennial promotion favourite Dons to nothing short of ordinary.

Pre-match Smith asserted League One was more 'even' this year, post-match opposite number Karl Robinson agreed.

George Bowerman has already had a decent penalty shout turned down after Antony Kay's suspected handball, before Holden prodded in Florent Cuvelier's left wing corner from eight yards.

Luke Chadwick forced goalkeeper David Grof into a sprawling save and Dean Bowditch thumped the post but the Saddlers were not for breaking. The Dons, lauded for their passing game, were left to launch long as the hosts held firm.

Walsall themselves refused to ditch their passing values and kept cool. Perhaps the most impressive thing about the Saddlers was that there were no signs of panic, no unease. There was always a sense they would hang on.

There were some late worries, Daniel

Powell's deflected effort kissing the bar and Grof denying Alan Smith in stoppage time, yet Walsall dealt with the pressure, brushing it off with confidence.

But as Saddlers boss Smith stated after the opening day loss to Doncaster, it's a long season. Four outings later and that sentiment has not changed.

It has only been five games and there will be times this season where the scene isn't so promising.

But you have to forgive the fans if they are experiencing a few butterflies.

They are feeling an emotion they haven't felt for a long time, something which has been missing during two difficult seasons where it has sometimes been hard to see the light.

They're not used to feeling it, it's foreign. What was that word again? Optimism – and it's very welcome.

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# SPORT

**On the rise**  
Another win for  
happy Saddlers  
**Page 55**



**The late show**  
Rush of points lifts  
Walsall's rugby men  
**Page 55**

Sports Desk 01902 319461

e-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

## Lockmen find key to move up table

**Darlaston 0 Willenhall Town 5**  
THE Lockmen went nap to move off the bottom of the West Midlands Premier.

The visitors attacked from the off and could have scored twice in the opening 90 seconds as Josh Edwards saw his effort well-saved and Reece Leek had a shot stopped.

It was little surprise when the visitors took a 14th-minute lead when Mattie Dorgan won a crunching tackle with two defenders before curling a delightful low effort around the keeper.

Two minutes later Harry Rickus doubled the advantage when both he and Leek had shots blocked before his second attempt was volleyed low into the corner.

The Reds should have had a penalty and then hit the bar before stretching their lead when Kyle Parchment pounced on a woefully short back-pass and rounded the keeper before rolling home.

Both Rickus and Parchment could have added to the tally before the latter's 62nd-minute corner was headed home by Rickus.

Leek forced another fine save from Steven Booth before skipper Jamel Fuller had to clear off the line to deny the hosts a goal.

The scoring was rounded off on 90 minutes when Willenhall sub Dean Humpage, saw his header cleared off the line, only for Parchment to thump the rebound home.

## 10-man Star held to draw

**Continental Star 2  
Heather St John 2**

STAR came close to winning this Midland Football Alliance encounter, despite being reduced to 10 men.

They took the lead on nine minutes through Aaron Garvey but in the 18th minute centre-half Josh O'Garra was judged to have pulled back Heather striker Michael Brown, and was sent off.

Brown scored the resulting penalty, but the hosts' lead was restored by full-back Natty Brown. Davion Hamilton came close to adding a third goal for Star but was only denied by brilliant goalkeeping.

Richard Lewis equalised for the visitors on 65 minutes.

Continental are in FA Vase action tomorrow when they travel to Southam United in the second qualifying round.



Karen Carney and Andy Butler at the Banks's Stadium

## Karen ready for crucial match

ENGLAND women's star Karen Carney has called on fans to make it a big crowd at the Banks's Stadium for their crucial Euro 2013 qualifier.

England need a victory over Croatia on Wednesday (September 19, 5pm) to ensure automatic progress, or will face a play-off.

Carney, of Birmingham City, said: "It's a really important game for us."

"If we win it we qualify for the Euros and that would be another opportunity for us to promote women's football, so a big crowd at Walsall could help us."

### Football

Birmingham-born Carney is relishing the chance to play for England so close to home.

"It's great for me to be playing for my country so close to where I live," she said. "I have played there twice before. It's a great stadium, they've got a great pitch and I'm looking forward to going there again. Hopefully we can get the three points we need to make it to the Euros."

Carney visited the ground at the weekend and was welcomed by Walsall and MK Dons fans.

She signed autographs and also met Saddlers captain Andy Butler.

She is hoping that the unprecedented support at the Olympics, where more than 70,000 people watched Team GB at Wembley, will spill over.

Tickets are now on sale at Walsall Banks's stadium for England's final qualifier.

The ticket hotline is 01922 651 416 or [www.eticketing.co.uk/walsallfc](http://www.eticketing.co.uk/walsallfc)

## Rising stars to shine in the ring

STOURBRIDGE'S Steven Pearce and Brierley Hill's Kyle Spencer have been backed to shine in their next pro assignments at Walsall Town Hall.

Pearce and Spencer are both on next Friday's bill and trainer Shaun Cooper has seen a marked improvement from them in the gym.

Behind-the-scenes at Coops Boxing Camp in Brierley Hill, Cooper has worked with the pair since they both turned over in October of last year.

'Fierce' Pearce – a Midlands champion in the ABA Novices as an amateur – has two fights' more paid experience, so is down for a six-rounder. The 27-year-old welterweight is up against scrapper Billy Smith.

Cooper said: "Pearce has really improved and he's banging people around in sparring, but we have got him boxing as well."

"We are getting him away from scrapping now. It's a good stepping stone for him."

"You can dish it out to Billy Smith all day long and he's still going to be in front of you at the end of it."

Spencer is still growing as a pro and missed his third fight in June due to a chest infection.

'The Style' has scored points wins over Aaron Fox and left Rick Boulter with black eyes after their bout in March. The 22-year-old light-middleweight is still an unknown but could be a future Midlands champion, according to Cooper.

He said: "Kyle will shock everybody, once he gets a few more fights under his belt."

For tickets to the Walsall show, call the box office on 0845 111 2900.

**The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Kettle, Telford, Thursday, September 13, 2012.**

# ELLIE CAN STAND THE HEAT IN POOL

**WALSALL swimming star Ellie Simmonds confirmed her status as one of the faces of the Paralympic Games with two more medals.**

Simmonds, aged 17, already had two golds in the bag but added a silver and a bronze to justify her status as one of the greatest Paralympic swimmers of the modern era.

The expectation heaped on her after her gold rush four years ago in Beijing was immense. But she delivered.

Simmonds smashed her own world record by five seconds in the 400m – clocking 5:19.17s – and her Games-long battle with American teenager Victoria Arlen was one of the stories of the Paralympics.

Simmonds has dominated since winning double gold in Beijing, taking 15 consecutive major titles, including 10 world golds, in the last three years. But she admitted, especially in the 400m, to feeling the heat from the home crowd.

### Amazing

"I felt like I had a lot of pressure on me," said Simmonds.

"It means so much to win a gold at your home Paralympics and the pressure was quite hard to deal with. The crowd were amazing, they got me to that wall first."

"People expected me to get gold, which was not the case with Victoria on the scene."

Simmonds was tearful after her victories – and after her bonus bronze in the 50m, her fourth strongest event.

"I was hoping to go for a personal best and see what happened so to get a bronze, I will definitely take that."

Arlen paid tribute to Simmonds, adding: "The crowd were really rooting for her but that made me rise up."

## Peace of history as seconds take the honours



Proud Pelsall display their trophies after they won the Staffordshire Clubs second XIs knockout tournament

PELSALL'S second XI outshone their first-team counterparts at the Staffordshire Clubs Knockout finals day.

Tom Peace was the hero for Pelsall as they beat Milford Hall to claim the second XI trophy.

Peace hit a half-century to guide his side past Milford's challenging 172 with an over to spare, his innings earning him the man of the match award and the Luke Dovey Memorial Trophy.

But there was no joy for Pelsall's first team as they slipped to a nine-wicket defeat at the hands of Milford in their final. South African all-rounder Derek Mitchell hit 35 and Andy Smith made 23 as Pelsall made 118-9 from their 20 overs.

Milford then eased home with 11 balls to spare.

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